

Kinnock risks major split on nuclear policy

Labour leader abandons unilateralist stance

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock yesterday broke with the past by explicitly abandoning unilateralism and burying old-style nuclearization.

The Labour Party leader made clear publicly for the first time that an incoming Labour government would not unilaterally strip Britain of nuclear weapons.

However, Labour would use the Trident missile system as a bargaining counter in East-West disarmament negotiations to win greater worldwide reductions in nuclear arsenals.

In remarks certain to provoke anger among his left-wing opponents Mr Kinnock, in his first important inter-

view since the completion of the first phase of the party's post-election policy review, said: "We want to get rid of Trident. But the fact is now that it does not have to be something for nothing. The fact is now it can be something for something."

"There is no need now for something for nothing unilateralism."

He said it was already clear that bilateral reciprocal missile for missile reductions be-

There has been a significant fall in the number of people who regard the poll tax and the social services, including the NHS, as major issues. Although Labour has campaigned heavily on both, the latest MORI poll for Times Newspapers shows that only 9 per cent cite the poll tax as a key issue and 13 per cent cite social security — each down 4 per cent in a month — page 2

decommission Polaris and cancel Trident.

At the time of last autumn's conference Mr Kinnock suggested Trident might be used as a bargaining chip, but yesterday's remarks were the first outright confirmation that this would be the case.

Mr Tony Benn, who is standing against Mr Kinnock for the leadership, last night attacked the "bland and empty" statements in the party policy review.

Speaking in Preston he said that a coalition was emerging between the Government and Labour front benches in the Commons on which they seemed to agree on some of the main political issues, including the level of defence spending with a nuclear Nato under American control.

But in his interview on BBC's *This Week Next* Mr Kinnock made plain that he is prepared to ride out such criticism.

He derided a call from Mr Ken Livingstone for him to reaffirm the commitment to unilateralism as "an incantation from someone who does not have the basic comprehension of what the opportunities are, not just of getting rid of our nuclear weapons but also making a significant reduction in the nuclear weapons of the Soviet Union."

In the course of his forthright interview on the policy review Mr Kinnock was felt to have slaughtered several sacred cows.

Asked whether old-style nuclearization was dead, after the policy review's recommendation of a new policy on public ownership, Mr Kinnock replied: "Yes. There is a universal consensus about that."

Mr Kinnock attacked some of the opponents of change in party policy as people who enjoyed being in opposition rather than in government.

He said that people who dusted themselves down and got stuck in, determined to secure democratic power were the ones he liked. "The ones who go around whingeing are the ones I do not get on with."

"What we are doing is ensuring in terms of policy and in terms of the party that we face the future."

He said: "There are some toes to be trodden on in the process of that. That is a small price to pay."

between "any part of the West" and the Soviet Union had been on for some time.

He said that his personal adherence to unilateralism had been appropriate at a time when nothing was happening over disarmament. But now the "logjam had been broken" and the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union had walked together in Red Square and talked of the objective of ridding the planet of nuclear weapons.

What Labour now had to consider was how best it could accelerate the process.

He said Labour remained committed to decommissioning Britain's independent deterrent. "What we get in return for that decommissioning is a bonus for Britain and a bonus for the world."

"There are people who want us to slam the door and say that involves us in the politics of reality... that involves us in getting generally lower force levels and it does not ring quite so brassy on the ear. I am sorry about that. I am interested in getting rid of nuclear weapons, whoever has them."

Mr Kinnock's words confirmed the suspicions of the left, which felt since the election that the unilateralist stance would be watered down.

Labour fought the election on a straight commitment to

Solo yachtswoman's record



Home in triumph: Kay Cottee waving to the crowds who welcomed her in Sydney yesterday, 189 days after she set sail on her record-breaking round-the-world voyage.

Hurd takes hard line over prison terms for murder

By Our Chief Political Correspondent

Murderers will have to spend many more years in prison under a new hard-line approach adopted by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary.

Ministers are ordering longer minimum stays for nearly all kinds of murder in response to the growing public alarm over violent crime.

News of the tough approach emerged as MPs prepared for tomorrow's Commons vote on the death penalty, which is certain again to be rejected by a majority of more than a hundred that will include Mr Hurd and his ministerial team.

Under a policy which has not been announced but which has operated for several months the minimum stay period, or "tariff", fixed by the Home Secretary has been increased for many murderers. Informed sources said the period set is now higher than it would have been "in the majority of cases". In a handful of cases the prison term has been set at 50 years.

The increases apply both to murderers already subject to the rule preventing them being considered for parole until they have served at least 20 years in prison, and to other murderers to whom that rule does not apply.

Offences which come into the former category are terrorist murder, murder of policemen and prison officers,

Non-stop around the world

From Christopher Morris, Sydney

Amid tears, cheers, champagne and flowers, Kay Cottee yesterday sailed home to Sydney and into the history books — the first woman to sail solo non-stop around the world.

At the helm of her storm-battered yacht *Miss Cottee*, aged 34, who is Australian, received a tumultuous welcome as she crossed the finish line at the end of an epic voyage of 25,000 nautical miles.

Hundreds of yachts and small boats sailed out under Sydney Harbour Bridge to greet her, while ferries sounded their horns and fire-fighting tugs sprayed out plumes of water.

On board the 38ft yacht *Blackmore's First Lady*, an emotional Miss Cottee burst into tears. She was a tiny figure, standing barefoot on the deck. When she left Sydney on November 29, there were just a handful of people to wave farewell. Yesterday an estimated quarter of a million people saw her return.

It had been her childhood ambition to become the first woman to sail non-stop around the world alone. Dame Naomi James, the New Zealand yachtswoman completed her circumnavigation some years ago but made five stops. She set six records. She also recorded the fastest speed and fastest time by a woman for a circumnavigation, the longest

Leading article.....15

view cases after 10 years. They are unlikely to reject Parole Board recommendations for release if the original tariff set has been reached.

It was made plain yesterday that ministers consider each case on its merits.

Mr Hogg said: "There are many cases in which a killer must expect to serve very long periods in prison, sometimes greatly in excess of 20 years. It is a mistake to suppose that any killer could expect to be able to serve only 10 or 12 years. That is an illusion."

● The Home Office is planning to take over the fighter base at RAF Binbrook in Lincolnshire to help ease overcrowding in jails.

French Socialists' fate in balance

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

With a record number of French voters staying away from yesterday's first round in the parliamentary elections, first computer projections were differing on whether the Socialists would gain the 289 seats required for a majority.

The confusion between polling organizations made it impossible to judge at the close of voting who is best placed to win next Sunday's final round. There was general agreement, however, that the National Front and Communist vote had collapsed as expected, leaving both parties in danger of losing all the 35 deputies each had in the previous Parliament.

The exceptionally high proportion of abstentions upset all forecasts.

Early counts from various regions suggested that voter turnout was below the comparable level for the 1986 parliamentary elections, though Parisians appeared to be bucking the trend. With Henri Leconte carrying the flag against Mats Wilander live on TV in the final of the French Open Tennis Championship during the afternoon, only the most intrepid canvassers were out knocking up last-minute supporters.

Moscow police escort protest marchers to Kremlin walls

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The recent rash of unofficial protests in the Soviet Union took a dramatic new twist yesterday when about 50 Armenians, Crimean Tatars and members of a newly-formed opposition group marched towards the Kremlin under uniformed police escort shouting slogans and waving banners.

The incident, later condemned by Tass as a "concert" staged for Western journalists here to cover the millennium of Russian Christianity, reflected the growing problems facing the security forces when dealing with protests under the watchful eye of the Western media.

As one senior Western diplomat explained: "It is becoming increasingly hard for the KGB to deal with these manifestations by traditional bully-boy methods and yet still claim to support the official policy of glasnost."

As *The Times* reported on the eve of last week's Reagan-Gorbachev summit, there has been a growing number of unofficial protests in different parts of the Soviet Union in recent months, covering a large number of issues. On many occasions the protests appear to have been tolerated by the authorities.

Yesterday the demonstrators first gathered in Pushkin Square near the city centre, carrying placards denouncing Stalinism and calling for a multi-party system

and freedom for political prisoners.

Then, announcing their intention to march to Red Square — where unapproved protests are banned — the demonstrators formed an orderly column and still shouting out their demands marched towards the Kremlin with an escort of half a dozen police as passers-by looked on in surprise.

Apparently acting on higher orders, police used megaphones to keep the marchers in order and out of the way of traffic, but otherwise their authorities did not interfere.

Church millennium.....9

Légachov attack.....10

until the marchers reached Soviet Square about 300 yards from the Kremlin walls.

It was believed to have been one of the first protest marches of its kind seen in the capital, although static demonstrations by unofficial groups have recently become more common.

The protesters held a meeting which was addressed by leaders of the newly-formed opposition group, the Democratic Union, which called for a multi-party system. The grouping has faced much KGB harassment since its founding.

Speakers also included Crimean Tatars who demanded to return to their Black Sea homeland from which they were deported by Stalin.

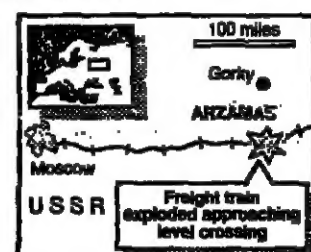
Soviet train blast kills at least 68

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

The Soviet Union suffered one of its worst rail disasters at the weekend when at least 68 people were killed and a further 230 injured after a freight train carrying industrial explosives blew up mysteriously as it was pulling into the town of Arzamas, east of Moscow.

As a result of the policy of glasnost, graphic details of the accident were rapidly provided with Tass reporting yesterday that the blast, some 250 miles from the Soviet capital, hurled the train into the air, levelled 150 houses and gouged an 80 ft deep crater at the station.

Tass warned that some of the injured were in serious condition and that its casualty toll was preliminary. Among the dead were eight children.



100 miles
Gorly
Arzamas
USSR
Freight train exploded approaching level crossing

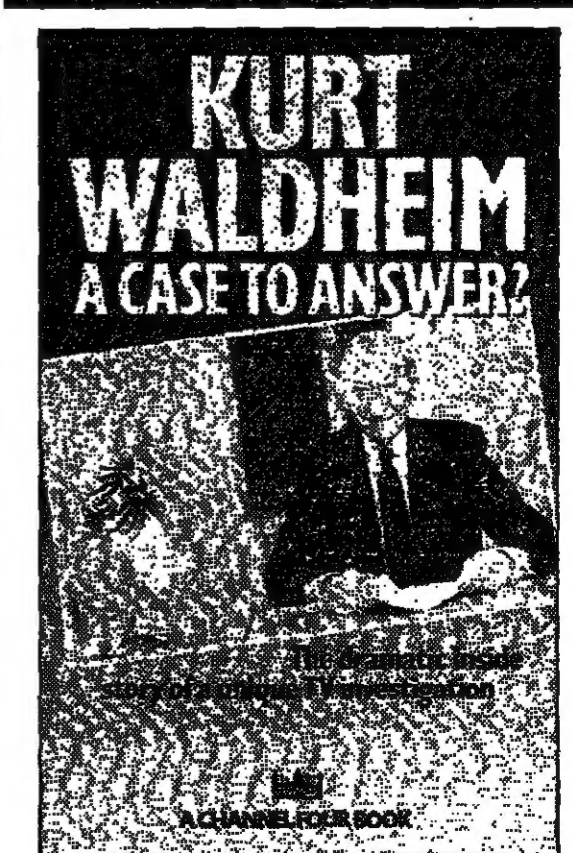
and 44 others required hospital treatment.

First news of the disaster was provided by Mr Gennady Vederikov, a Deputy Prime Minister who was dispatched to the area in charge of a 14-member emergency commission set up to investigate the explosion at 9.30 am on Saturday.

The commission chief told *Izvestia* that many of the victims had been killed while sitting inside vehicles which were waiting at a railroad crossing near the station.

Continued on page 24, col 8

READ FOR YOURSELF the evidence and facts behind last night's historic judgement



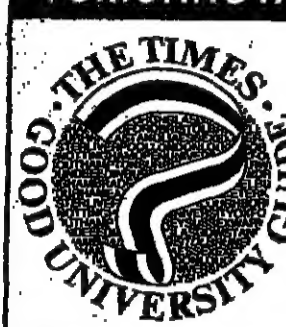
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TOMORROW



● Bedside manners or a way with books? Tomorrow, *The Times Good University Guide* looks at the making of a doctor, and the trend towards getting medical students in contact with patients sooner.

● The Good University Guide is in its second week and will appear each weekday until Friday June 17. It provides a unique guide to every university and polytechnic in Britain, together with Erratum, a daily general knowledge competition with computer prizes.

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Accumulator

● The £8,000 weekly prize was claimed on Saturday (see page 3) leaving £66,000 in the Portfolio Accumulator fund.
Prices, page 28

IN PART ②

Lyle's million
Sandy Lyle passed £1 million earnings on the European golf tour by winning the Dunhill British Masters at Woburn yesterday. Page 44

Hockey win

Great Britain won an international men's hockey tournament in Malaysia yesterday, beating South Korea 4-0 in the final. Page 44

TIMES FOCUS

Can private health cure the growing ills of the NHS? A Special Report looks at the issues. Pages 29-32

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Air delays build up for holidaymakers

By Andrew Moger

Thousands of British travellers booked on charter flights suffered long waits in packed airport lounges early today after a second night of delays because of industrial action by Spanish air traffic controllers.

Some holidaymakers were delayed for 18 hours at the weekend after the introduction of a flow-control system designed to make flying safer, but which has the disadvantage of increasing uncertainty about take-off times.

The new system causes a build-up of aircraft in Spanish air space covered by the Barcelona air traffic control area, where controllers have complained they have to handle up to 19 flights simultaneously when the recommended maximum is 10.

In Britain the knock-on effect caused delays for some Gatwick flights of up to eight hours and at Manchester a backlog of 5,000 passengers built up on Saturday as they waited for an average of three to four hours.

Last night Manchester airport was getting ready to handle a similar number.

"Nearly every flight going south into Spain is delayed," said a spokesman. "It is impossible to say how soon the situation will improve."

Passengers at Jersey airport, also affected as the delays spread, waited for between four and five hours for flights from Gatwick, Glasgow and Cardiff, with passengers returning to the mainland less badly affected.

Continued on page 24, col 7

Drivers may use credit cards for 'on spot' fines

By Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

Payment of fines by credit card is being considered by a Home Office working party chaired by the Home Office to tackle the mounting backlog of unpaid fixed penalty tickets for minor traffic offences.

The fixed penalty system, brought in less than two years ago to ease the congestion in courts caused by millions of parking offences, has become too successful. Under the system, many minor traffic offences no longer have to be dealt with in the courts and are instead covered by fixed penalty tickets issued "on the spot". Motorists who accept the fine must pay within 28 days or the fine goes up.

So many tickets have now been

issued that ticket offices are struggling to cope with follow-up and enforcement procedures. Mr Peter Dawson, chairman of the Justices' Clerks' Society's road traffic law committee, said in some areas, the backlog of unpaid parking tickets is as much as 50 per cent of tickets issued.

The Home Office working party, of which he is a member and which includes magistrates, justices' clerks, fixed penalty clerks, ticket office and Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre (DVLC) representatives, has drawn up measures to tackle the problem. They include:

- Payment of car pound and wheel clamp fees, and possibly also fines at court, by credit card;
- A massive national television and

radio publicity campaign emphasizing the importance of early payment;

- Increased fines for initial non-payment;
- More use of bailiffs to collect unpaid fines;
- A new offence to cover a false declaration by a driver about who owns the vehicle;
- Tightening of loopholes on car registration which allow partnerships to escape fine enforcement;
- Simplified fixed penalty ticket forms.

The idea of a national publicity campaign, Mr Dawson says, is to get over the message that if the fixed penalty is paid at once, then it is cheaper for the offender.

This may be reinforced by higher penalties for non-payment, so that the

fine of £12 for non-endorsable offences, which rises to £18 for non-payment in 28 days would go instead to £24; and the fine of £24 for endorsable offences which goes to £36 would go instead to £48.

A pilot scheme has been set up to look at the use of credit cards for payment of fees at car pounds for collecting cars and having them unclamped. If successful, it could be extended to payment of fines at magistrates' courts.

The loophole by which drivers who register at the DVLC in the name of a partnership or unincorporated association cannot then be tracked down for fine enforcement purposes is a growing problem: this now accounts for 4 per cent of unpaid tickets and the percentage is mounting.

NEWS ROUNDUP

More packets on drugs find beach

Customs were last night analysing cocaine with a street value of \$4 million washed up on a beach and were examining powder found in two other packets near by. The drug, packed into 11 two-inch thick packets each containing one kilo of cocaine, was found by a man out for a walk at Saldean, near Brighton, on Saturday.

"The packets obviously came from a vessel and we will continue our inquiries to try to find the drug smugglers", Customs said.

The two other packets containing white powder were discovered later washed up at Worthing, Sussex. The powder was wrapped in clear polythene and the packages were not identical to those found at Saldean, but neither Customs nor police could say if it was a drug.

Charges hit museums

Admission charges are blamed for stunting the growth of museum visits last year. Figures issued yesterday by the British Tourist Authority show that Madame Tussaud's waxworks in London topped the list of paid "attractions" drawing a crowd of 2.4 million visitors. But the most popular spot for free entertainment was Blackpool Pleasure Beach with nearly 6.5 million visitors. The report says: "The below average 4 per cent increase in visits to museums has followed the introduction of museum charges at several major museums".

Junk mail welcome

Most people like getting junk mail and more than two-thirds open and read everything that comes through their letter boxes, according to figures published yesterday. The average home in the UK receives almost 30 items of mail each month and while 11.4 items are not specifically addressed to the occupant only 3.5 of these can be considered unsolicited mail, the Royal Mail said. Homes receive 5.5 free newspapers each month, 5.9 leaflets and coupons and 18.1 personally addressed items of mail.

Première for opera

The Royal Opera House is to mount the world première of a Donizetti opera after its missing second act was found in the cellars of Covent Garden. Although Gaetano Donizetti composed *Elisabetta di Siberia* in 1838, it was never performed and had been forgotten until Mr Will Crutchfield, an American musicologist, found acts one and three in the basement of the Royal Opera House four years ago. Last week Mr Richard Bonyng, the Australian conductor, chanced upon the manuscript of the second act while rummaging through a sack of ballet music.

Boy's scholarship

The youngest person ever to pass mathematics O level, ten-year-old John Adams, is not going to university until he is 16 but is to be an "ordinary schoolboy" at a local public school. John, who when he was awarded a C-grade in mathematics A level last August, announced that he would rather score a goal for Everton than be an academic, has won a scholarship to Oakham School, a £6,500 a year co-educational school within easy reach of his home in Asfordby, Leicestershire.

Big crowds at show

The Royal Bath and West Show which completed its four-day run on Saturday had the second best attendance in the 24 years that Shepton Mallet, Somerset, has been its permanent home. Rain and hail storms on the final day did not dissuade more than 39,000 visitors. The overall attendance reached 153,833—9,150 up on last year although 27,000 fewer than the 1978 record. Mr Bill Drewett, one of only three honorary show directors over the past 54 years, is standing down. The job will be split in two.

Fight to halt membership decline disrupted

TUC 'obsessed by electricians'

By Tim Jones and Roland Rudd

The TUC had "messed up" the work of its Special Review Body, which was aiming to halt a decline in membership, because of an obsession with internal problems caused by the electricians' union, a union leader said yesterday.

Mr John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB general union, said the TUC was involved in a battle about the future of the movement and "had better come down to earth".

He said it should abandon some of its committee work and concentrate on issues which would benefit ordinary working people. Instead, recent union victories had been overshadowed by a bleak cloud which seemed to hang permanently over the TUC.

Mr Edmonds said: "We

Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, received a crucial endorsement yesterday from a trade union leader who last month publicly voiced criticism of the TUC leadership.

Mr Alan Tiffin, general secretary of the Union of Communication Workers, had added his voice to a growing campaign against Mr Willis for his handling of the electricians' role in News International's move to Wapping, east London, and on the sensitive issue of no-strike deals.

Mr Tiffin told the union conference last month that the problems facing unions

should be looking outwards, but instead the TUC seems to have wasted another year picking the fluff out of Eric Hammond's navel".

Mr Hammond's union, the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union (EETPU), has been charged with bringing the movement into disrepute by its refusal to accept a disputes

required "positive TUC leadership". This was taken as a veiled attack on Mr Willis.

However, in a letter to Mr Willis, which was released yesterday, Mr Tiffin said his remarks had been misinterpreted. His criticism was directed at others, notably the electricians, who "are not prepared to accept the overall authority of the General Council".

In the exchange of letters Mr Tiffin says: "I do assure you that in no way was that a direct, indirect or tip-of-the-iceberg criticism of your good self but rather our collective inability to deal with a number of critical issues."

Mr Edmonds said the EETPU had been trying to defend itself by smearing other people.

The EETPU accused Mr Edmonds last night of hypocrisy, humbug and cant.

In the latest EETPU bulletin to union officials, the GMB is criticised for parading itself as the "new moral force in the TUC, in direct oppo-

sition to EETPU philosophy" while privately pursuing employers to sign no-strike deals.

The GMB would command more respect had they like the Manufacturing, Science and Finance (MSF) union, been against new-style agreements in theory and in practice.

"Unlike the MSF, who want the EETPU out of the TUC for political reasons, the GMB want us out, not on reasons of principle, but because they want the opposition destroyed in order to carry on signing arbitration-linked recognition agreements."

"The TUC code arising from the special review body will undoubtedly stop craft unions from entering into such agreements, but will it stop the general unions doing just that?" the pamphlet says.

Key issues poll cheers Tories

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

There have been significant falls in the numbers of people who regard the health service, social security and the community charge as the most important issues facing the country, according to the latest MORI opinion poll for Times Newspapers.

Ministers will be relieved that while 64 per cent of people thought the health service the most important issues in January, that figure has now dropped steadily to 44 per cent, a 6 per cent reduction on last month.

Only 9 per cent now regard the poll tax as among the key issues, a 4 per cent drop, and only 13 per cent see social security in that light, a 4 per cent fall.

The survey is a setback to Labour, which has staged campaigns on all three issues and had hoped to use them to eat further into the Conservative lead shown in recent opinion polls.

The MORI poll shows the Conservatives have taken a four-point lead over Labour. It puts the Conservatives on 44 per cent, Labour on 40 per cent, the Social and Liberal Democrats on 7 per cent and Dr David Owen's SDP on 6

Another boost for the Government was the survey's finding that confidence in the economic prospects of the country is continuing to grow, in spite of the recent apparent rift between Downing Street and the Treasury.

According to MORI's economic optimism index, people's anticipation of a continuing improvement in the economy is now the highest since the general election.

The poll also showed that 30 per cent of Labour supporters were dissatisfied with the way Mr Kinnock is doing his job.

Some 14 per cent of Conservative supporters are unhappy with Mrs Thatcher's performance as Prime Minister. Among the public generally, 43 per cent are satisfied with Mrs Thatcher's performance and 37 per cent with Mr Kinnock's.

MORI interviewed a representative quota sample of 1,874 adults across Britain between May 27 and June 1.

Conservative... 44%
Labour... 40%
SDP... 7%
Liberal Democrats... 6%
©MORI/Times Newspapers.

Mastermind misses final



Mr David Beamish outside his "office" with the winner's glass rosebowl from BBC Television's Mastermind 1988 contest. Millions of viewers saw him lift the trophy last night, but he was not among them because he was on his way to Paris for a conference. Mr Beamish, aged 34, a House of Lords establishment officer, of Kennington, south-west London, was persuaded to enter the competition by his mother. His specialist subject was the life and times of Nancy Astor, the first

woman to take a seat in the Commons. He said of his subject: "She lived such an interesting life but after having swotted up on her life story I did not like her that much".

Mr Beamish won the final, which was recorded at Stirling University with 35 points. Margaret Fleming from Brighton was second with 33; Philip Gray from Merseyside scored 32; Roy Bailey from Newbury, Berkshire was fourth with 29; and Barry McCartney, from Suffolk, scored 27.

Howe is 'content to serve leader'

By Our Chief Political Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe yesterday confirmed his ambition to become prime minister, saying that reports of his political death had been "greatly exaggerated".

In his first remarks about reports of a rift with Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey denied that he was disappointed not to have been made deputy prime minister when Lord Whitelaw stood down, and played down the Prime Minister's remark that her successor should come from the next generation of politicians.

It was that interview which many ministers and MPs felt was behind Sir Geoffrey's intervention in the exchange rate dispute between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, last month.

He spoke out then in favour of entry into the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System, which Mrs Thatcher opposes.

That in turn has led to speculation that Sir Geoffrey might be moved from the Foreign Office in the next reshuffle.

There is a growing belief among ministers, however, that Mr Lawson will stay at the Treasury for one more Budget.

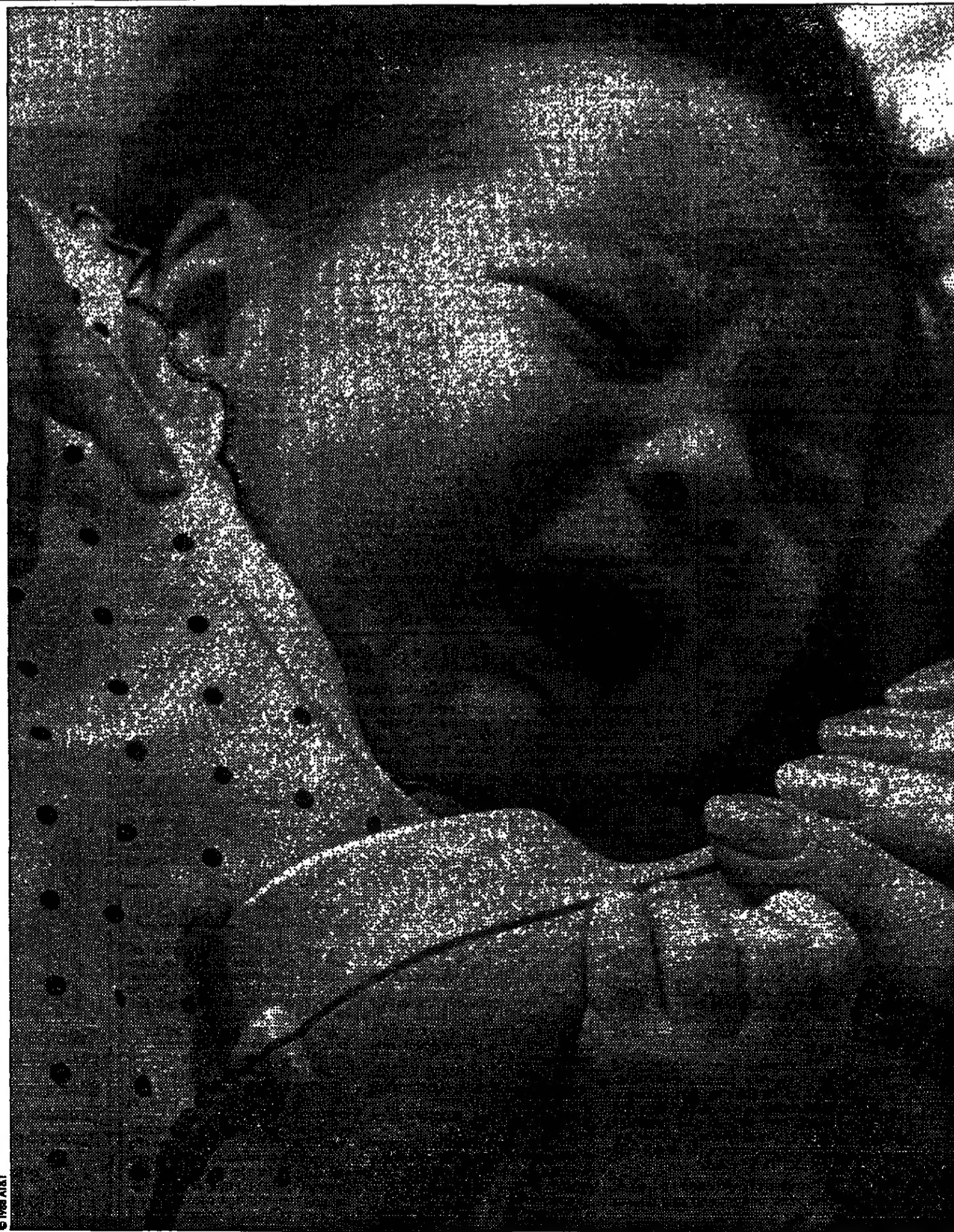
Sir Geoffrey, interviewed yesterday on TV-am, said: "My own position, quite frankly, is that Margaret Thatcher is Prime Minister. She is the leader of the party."

"She has had enormous international experience and standing and success in winning election after election in this country. I am content to go on serving in that partnership."

He then went on: "Obviously if something were to happen, if the opportunity were to arise, there is no one in politics who does not cherish the possibility of becoming prime minister."

Results The Times evening
Australia \$2.75; Belgium 8 p.m. 50c;
Canada \$2.15; Denmark 12.00;
Cyprus 80 cents; Denmark 12.00;
Finland 100; France 9.00; W.
Germany DM 3.50; Greece 70c;
Ireland £2.00; Holland 1.50; W.
Italy 1.50; Japan 1.00; Korea 1.00;
Lithuania 1.00; Luxembourg 1.00;
Malta 1.00; Mexico 12.00; Norway 12.00;
Poland 1.00; Portugal 1.00;
Spain 1.00; Sweden 1.00;
Switzerland 1.00; USA \$2.00; USSR 1.00;
Yugoslavia 1.00.

HE'S NOT IN THE STATES.



BUT HE CAN BE HEARD CLEAR ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.

"Hi Geoff. It's Carolyn."

"Hiya sis! And how's my nephew today?"

"I'll give you a clue."

"WAAAA—"

"Ouch! Roll on goo goo goo."

"And unbroken nights."

"How's George? Still playing fatherhood for all it's worth?"

"Absolutely. He gave the clinic a lecture on nappies yesterday."

"You're joking!"

"Nope. He had this theory about disposables versus terries."

"I can hardly wait."

The rest of this conversation is strictly family.

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Lawrence
Jumble
Consultant
Marmouse
Facing
Extinction
R
Irish brother

Lawrence urged to send book profits to Falklands fund

Tumbledown girl's plea to injured hero

By Howard Foster

The former girl friend of Mr Robert Lawrence, who was severely wounded in the Falklands conflict, urged him last night to contribute to the South Atlantic Fund in the aftermath of the controversial BBC Television play, *Tumbledown*.

Miss Victoria Calder-Smith, aged 24, also asked the makers of any future drama based on the fighting to draw a clear distinction between real and imaginary characters after complaints by herself and her family that the play showed her in a poor light as someone who had not cared for Lieutenant Lawrence after his return to England.

Tumbledown, which was shown on BBC1 last week, brought severe criticism of Mr Lawrence, upon whose book, *When the Fighting is Over*, the film was based.

Mr Lawrence lost 40 per cent of his brain when he was wounded by a sniper's bullet in the last hours of the fighting in 1982. The book and play were critical of the treatment he received later from medical authorities and the public.

Miss Calder-Smith, of Chelsea, south-west London, said: "Personally speaking, if anything is to come from the film, it would be a percentage of the profits from the book on which the film was based to go to the victims through the South Atlantic Fund."

"The reason I am speaking out now is that I feel very strongly about the film itself, not about the way I was portrayed", she said.

"In my opinion, it was very one-sided in several ways, leaving me out of it all together. The worst aspect was the way it showed the medical staff who treated Robert when he returned to England."

"It made out they didn't treat him that well when they were, in fact, terrific. It was an insult to them."

"As for the Army, they made it seem as if no-one ap-

art from Robert's family and myself, once, visited him in hospital. It wasn't like that at all. The Army was very helpful and a great support to him."

"The film was a mixture of fact and fiction, a very dangerous thing to do", she said.

"Robert himself is actually a much nicer person than how he was portrayed in the film."

On Saturday, *The Times* published a letter from Miss Calder-Smith's mother, which complained that the play misrepresented her daughter as "nothing more than a feelingless sex kitten".

The play showed a girl called Sophie in bed with the lieutenant and telling him that their relationship was over.

Mr Lawrence has also advised on a new film for Channel 4, called *Resurrected*, which is said to criticize the Scots Guards. It is based on the story of Mr Philip Williams, a guardsman, who went missing for seven weeks on the night of the Tumbledown battle.

Miss Calder-Smith said she did not know that her mother, a great niece of a former Scots Guards commander, had written to *The Times*.

"She and the rest of my family are dreadfully upset by the whole thing and, like me, just want to forget about it. I am not taking any action against the BBC over the way I was portrayed."

Mrs Rosemary Calder-Smith, her mother, said last night that the family still had a great affection for Mr Lawrence. She said she had written out of anger at the treatment of her daughter in the play.

"Nothing was mentioned of the unflinching support and encouragement which my daughter gave to him during his first month back in England", Mrs Calder-Smith, of Binfield Heath, Oxfordshire, said.

"A number of his friends stood by him and he was never forgotten, which was what the play showed. It was Victoria who gave Robert the will to pull through."



Miss Victoria Calder-Smith, former girl friend of Mr Lawrence, and her mother Rosemary (Photographs: Julian Herbert)

Scots Guards stay tight-lipped on second film

By Robin Young

The Scots Guards refused to comment yesterday on their reaction to the news that a second film is being made about the adverse experiences of one of their soldiers because of the Falkland Islands conflict.

A week after the screening of *Tumbledown* on BBC1, Channel 4 is well advanced with the making of *Resurrected*, a film inspired by the story of Guardsman Philip Williams, of the 2nd battalion, Scots Guards, who went missing, presumed dead, for seven weeks after the battle for Mount Tumbledown.

Mr Williams claims that although he was cleared by an official inquiry, he was subsequently bullied by fellow guardsmen to such an extent that he suffered a nervous breakdown and had to leave the Army.

He has since been unable to hold a steady job and has served a term of youth custody for harrasing two young girls while baby-sitting.

In the film which Channel 4 is making, the young soldier is subjected to a mock trial by his fellow soldiers, dragged into a bath of bleach, scrubbed with stiff brushes and beaten.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday: "There will be no comment. We have seen no script and have had no contact with the company making the film."

Channel 4 said: "If it were not being filmed immediately after the screening of *Tumbledown*, there would not have been any fuss."

The film was commissioned by Mr David Rose, who is in charge of the acclaimed *Film on 4* series. It is scripted by Martin Allen, who won Thames Television's award for the best play in 1985 with *Particular Friendships*.

Floating stores to cut ferry losses

By Michael Dwyer

A generation of floating department stores for cross-Channel shoppers is being planned by British ferry companies for the 1990s.

Built from modified roll-on roll-off ferries, the off-shore superstores are seen as a possible solution to the potentially devastating losses expected after the abolition of duty-free sales under the European single market in 1992.

The embryonic scheme is likely to involve the extensive use of franchise facilities—similar to those at airports—to sell a wide selection of discount consumer products.

Mr James Hannah, Senior British Ferries' corporate communications director, said that ferry companies were only just becoming aware of the enormous opportunities that existed for skilful marketing to a captive audience.

"Dublin airport, for example, is now selling more black silk lingerie than many major high street stores. It is quite a phenomenon. I suspect it is probably the only chance businessmen get to buy their wives a gift."

Mr Graeme Dunlop, managing director of the P & O European Ferries, has commissioned a detailed report on the viability of installing shopping arcades on his ferries.

"We are making our plans now on the assumption that the European internal market will be a reality in 1992. If we are going to survive, it is the only prudent course of action."

The approximation of fiscal taxation will make duty-free sales unattractive, and their expected abolition will deprive ferry companies of revenue that exceeded £161 million last year.

The companies fear that without the appeal of duty-free sales, the off-season day-trip excursion sector might decline radically.

The Duty Free Confederation has launched a campaign to keep duty-free concessions until "the last customs officer leaves the last frontier within the European Community".

But everyone involved in the duty-free industry understands that it is fighting a rearguard action. It is only a question of time before the Englishman's inalienable right to duty-free alcohol and cigarettes is finally abolished in the name of European unity.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Patience pays off

Mr Reginald Hewett yesterday had some advice for players of *The Times Portfolio* competition after he collected the weekly prize of £8,000.

"This is my first win, not only in *Portfolio*. I have never won anything at all and I would be happy to advise people to keep on checking", Mr Hewett, a former police sergeant who served in the Thames Valley force for 26 years, said.

"I was totally surprised but of course delighted. I had done the competition since it started."

Mr Hewett, of Portland Place, London, said a holiday to New Zealand with his wife, Ellen, is likely to be one of his priorities.



Mr Hewett: A holiday in New Zealand

Marriage split

The Princess of Wales's mother, Mrs Frances Shand Kydd, said yesterday she and her second husband, Peter, have separated. A statement from her solicitors said no one else was involved. The couple have four children.

Bough threat

Frank Bough, the television presenter, said yesterday he will see his lawyers today about seeking writs for libel against the *News of the World* and *The People* after they reported on his alleged payments to vice girls.

Close moves

People who move home in England like to stay in the same area and most travel less than 50 miles to their new property, according to a survey by Savills, the estate agents, published yesterday.

Moving house

The sixteenth century Essex Arms public house in Hereford is to be moved brick by brick 12 miles to the Queenswood arboretum on Dinsmore Hill, Leominster.

Consultant gives £12,000 to rescue bone disease unit

By Boris Johnson

A consultant who has given £12,000 to keep open a bone disease unit will have talks tomorrow with Mrs Edwina Currie, Under Secretary of State for Health, in an attempt to save the beds.

Dr John Kanis, who runs the unit at the Royal Hallamshire hospital in Sheffield, has agreed to give a third of his salary as an emergency measure until further health service funds can be obtained.

He said: "It is a tragedy that this centre for excellence faces the axe. I will be explaining to the minister

why I have had to take this step, in the face of the increasing problem of bone disease in this country."

Sheffield Health Authority told Dr Kanis that the unit would be kept open only if he could find a credible mechanism for continued funding.

His gift was raised through an overdraft with the Royal Bank of Scotland, with a private company acting as a guarantor for the loan. It would be the first time an NHS facility was financed through a private overdraft.

The money is enough to keep the eight-bed unit running for another two months. It serves 100 patients a

week and specializes in the treatment of osteoporosis, or brittle bones, which affects about three million women in Britain, particularly those of post-menopausal age.

Dr Kanis, who is president of the European Foundation of Osteoporosis and Bone Disease, said: "The incidence of osteoporosis has doubled over the past 15 years. There are only four or five similar units in the country."

The unit is internationally recognized as a treatment centre and for research into the disease, which is the most common cause of hip fractures in elderly women, and is

estimated to cost the NHS £500 million a year.

The unit faces closure as part of cuts by Sheffield Health Authority to prevent an overspend in the district's £175 million budget.

Mr John Brassington, the district treasurer, said: "Our first priority is to maintain activity levels, but we have got to the position in high technology medical areas where we cannot sustain this activity."

● The Queen Mother has written to staff at the Bracknell old people's home in York, which North Yorkshire County Council may close, expressing her pleasure that it has

been given a temporary reprieve.

● Professor Michael Preece of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, said yesterday that 1,800 children with growth problems who were treated with human growth hormone before 1985 should be told not to give blood.

They may be carrying an infectious agent that attacks the brain.

● Five patients have died while taking the anti-depressant drug, fluvoxamine, which is marketed as Faverin. The Department of Health and Social Security said it should not be given to patients with a history of epilepsy.

Dormouse facing extinction

By Andrew Morgan

The dormouse is an endangered species, the Department of the Environment confirmed yesterday.

Dormice are largely limited to Devon, Somerset, Kent, Sussex, and the Welsh borders. Effectively, though, they are extinct north of Norfolk and the department's announcement confirms a Nature Conservancy Council declaration of the species as endangered.

Experts were yesterday using radio collars to monitor movements of the dormouse. The experiments are taking place in the West Country after catching the mice in special nest-boxes which have been placed on trees under a scheme funded by World Wide Fund for Nature.

Dr Pat Morris, an authority on the rodent, said that tracked mice were last week eating sycamore and hawthorn flowers. Others will have radio collars fitted soon to collate their food requirements to provide information for reserves.

Dormice have declined because of poor summers and changes in land use, with the reduction of copses through the spread of agriculture.

Charity wants to run Heveningham Hall

Manor rescue bid launched

By Sarah Jane Checkland

Enthusiasts want to take over "the grandest Georgian manor in Suffolk".

The Suffolk Building Preservation Trust, a registered charity, wants to run Heveningham Hall, a Grade One building designed in the 1780s, which has been the subject of two public inquiries.

Mr Paul Edwards, director of the Suffolk Preservation Society, which runs the trust, said: "We are trying to find a way out of the impasse and save Heveningham for the nation."

"A quick result was prom-

ised after the inquiry because of the continued delay in the repair of the building, and nothing has so far happened." The trust wants to restore the house and open it to the public; it might also be used for concerts.

Heveningham was bought for £300,000 by the Government from the Vaneck family trustees in 1970. Eleven years later, it was sold to a private buyer, named by Mr Michael Heseltine, then Secretary of State for the Environment, as Mr Abdul Al-Ghazzi, an Arab businessman.

Rebuilding began, but in June 1984 all work stopped

when the east wing was wrecked by fire.

After the first proposal on the hall's future was rejected in 1983, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, ordered a second public inquiry, which took place in February this year.

During the evidence it emerged that the property was sold to L.D. Investment Development AG of Switzerland, not Mr Al-Ghazzi.

Lord Carnarvon, has asked his local council for money to with a £26,000 bill for repairs to his castle, Highclere, Hampshire.

Romans victorious over Georgians

By Ian Smith

A Roman fortress built in AD69 has been preferred by Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for the Environment, over a Grade Two Georgian town house.

Mr Ridley has over-ruled a recommendation from his planning inspector, and agreed that Doe House in Chester should be demolished to excavate the Roman amphitheatre which lies below.

Deva Roman Centre Ltd, supported by Chester City Council, is now finalizing plans to demolish Doe House in Little St John Street and begin excavations.

Over the next two years an archaeological team will unearth the amphitheatre and surrounding structures which demonstrate the development of the Chester fortress.

The £11 million development involves reconstructing

a portion of amphitheatre seating and outer fortress wall and building a two-storey interpretation centre.

The centre, designed to the same format as the highly successful Viking centre in York, will contain life-sized models depicting life in Chester under Roman rule.

More than half a million visitors a year are expected to visit the centre once it has been completed.

Irish brothers hopeful of court victory

By Paul Valley

At first everybody thought it a great joke when brothers Christopher and Michael McGimpsey decided to take the Anglo-Irish agreement to court.

Now, however, with a date fixed for next Tuesday, and government lawyers in Dublin and London having had a chance to study the McGimpsey challenge that the agreement violates the Irish constitution, there is not a little apprehension.

The McGimpseys are part of the new generation of Ulster Unionists. They were brought up in a traditional "loyalist" family, where politics were in the blood.

But Christopher, aged 35, earned a doctorate in Irish history at the University of Edinburgh and Michael, aged 40, graduated from Trinity College, Dublin, his Protestant viewpoint broadened by his contact with the political views of Catholics in the South.

When the Unionists decided to boycott the All-Ireland Forum, set up to contemplate wider options for the

future of the island, the McGimpseys disagreed. They travelled to the republic to put what Christopher McGimpsey called "the moderate, rational, Unionist position" to the conference.

"We told them the republicans had hijacked Irishness. We feel both Irish and British in the way someone could feel both Welsh and British." Many Unionists were annoyed but some republicans said that for the first time they saw Unionism as a respectable political position.

The brothers, whose views remain Unionist, have since been regarded as political mavericks, a reputation confirmed when the two wealthy businessmen hired a team of Dublin's top constitutional lawyers and laid a writ before the High Court there.

Mr Christopher McGimpsey said yesterday: "First, under Article 1 of the agreement, Dublin has recognised Northern Ireland as a separate entity, contrary to Articles 2 and 3 of its constitution. Second, it breaches a constitutional clause which says that the

Dublin Government is not allowed to give away the free exercise of power to foreign states."

The agreement also breaches, he claims, the constitutional requirement for a referendum in certain circumstances and the insistence that the island should be governed democratically. Unionists argue that direct rule from Westminster is undemocratic.

"We are confident that we have a stateable case and are capable of winning", Mr McGimpsey said. "One of the points of their (Dublin's) defence is that we have no *locus standi* in this case. This seems very odd. We are in their eyes Irish citizens. They give us Irish passports but then say we can have no material interests in the Irish constitution."

"If we are right in our challenge, it will mean the Irish Government is illegally spending taxpayers' money on the conference and secretariat."

He said the agreement was signed over the heads of the majority of people in Ulster.



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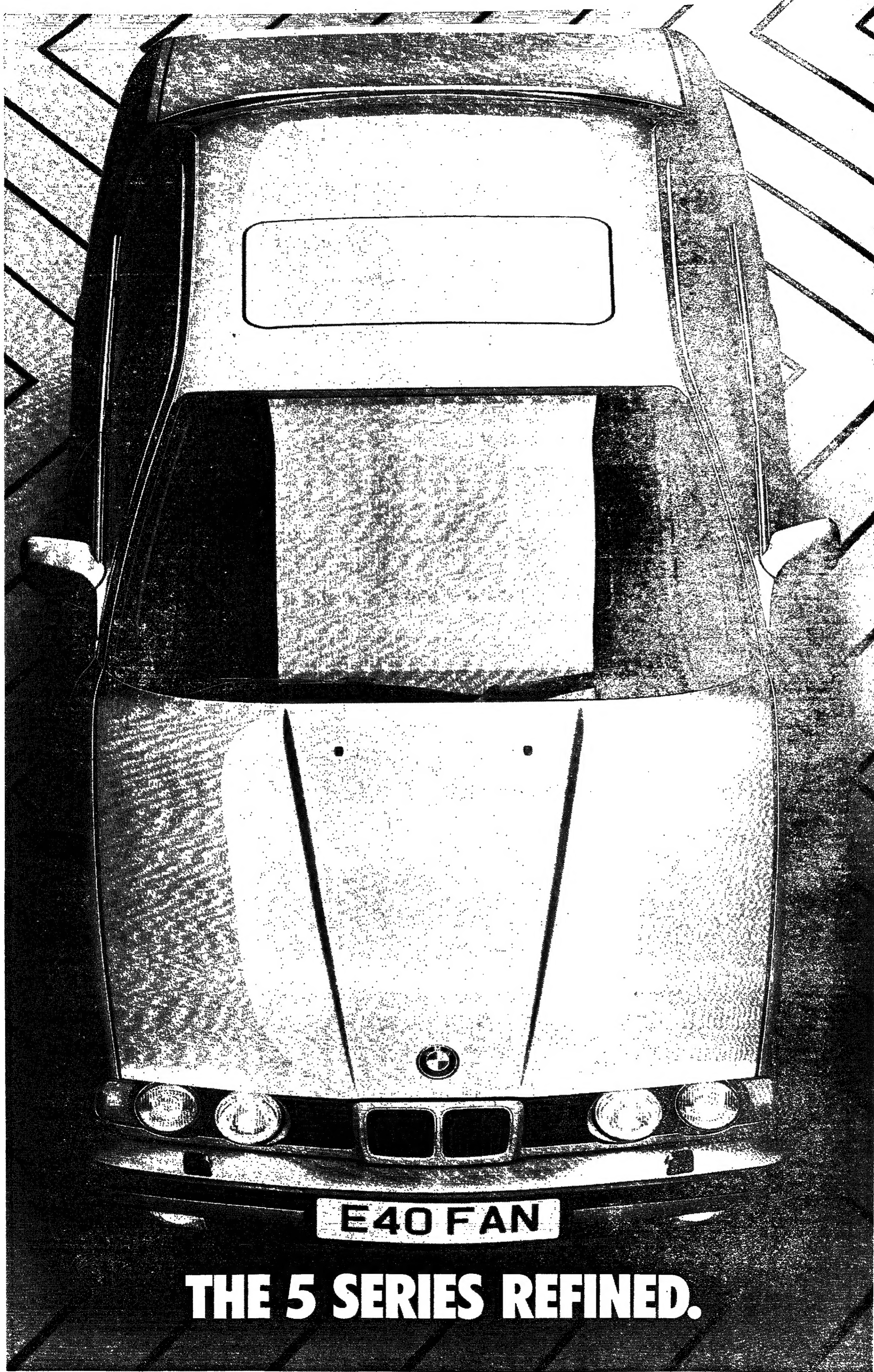
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All flights are ex-Gatwick. Reservations for travel on or before July 4th 1988 must be made at least 14 days prior to departure. Reservations for travel on July 5th 1988 and thereafter must be made 28 days prior to departure. All travel must be booked by September 24th 1988 and completed by October 29th 1988. Minimum stay, one Saturday night, maximum stay, one month. Reservations and ticketing must be completed at the same time and may not be changed. Tickets are non-refundable and non-endorsable. Bookings to be made in 'K' class. *Geneva from £87 return applies for outbound travel between May 31st and June 26th 1988, September 14th and September 24th 1988. Geneva from £100 return applies for outbound travel between June 27th and September 13th 1988.

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THE 5 SERIES REFINED.

Neither of these tasks was an easy one.

The current 5 Series, though six years old, includes the world's fastest four door production saloon.

And as for producing some new form of performance saloon, could BMW engineers triumph where others have not?

Frankly, it would appear that they have.

Motoring journalists have not only been unstinting in their praise of the new 5 Series, but also unanimous.

It is no mere facelift. The designers began with a blank sheet of paper.

And not one body panel is carried over from the previous model.

STYLED BY WIND, AS MUCH AS BY HAND.

The new car has a drag coefficient as low as 0.30. With even the floor pan shaped, to provide increased grip at speed.

But though BMW reduced the car's wind resistance, they succeeded in retaining its character. As 'Car' magazine reported:

"... its styling is modern, purposeful and yet unmistakably BMW."

Some credit for the car's appearance must go to those who engineered the chassis. Its wider track, longer wheelbase and lower centre of gravity give the car a sleek low look.

They also contribute to the car's near perfect balance and behaviour.

Back to 'Car' magazine.

"In this class no other saloon offers a better blend of ride, roadholding and handling."

THE INTERIOR IS AS CLASSICALLY BMW AS THE EXTERIOR.

The dashboard is unashamedly driver-orientated. Without a single garish liquid crystal gauge in sight.

They may be fractionally more efficient in reacting to information, but BMW judge them rather less efficient in communicating it.

'Motor' obviously concurs. "Bereft of styling excesses and gimmicks, the display stands as an example of design purity and clarity."

"The 520i's fascia brings new realism to the term 'carved from solid'. It looks superbly integrated and beautifully assembled from high-grade mouldings."

Of course, BMW have long been praised for their build quality. A reputation they were not about to compromise.

So, despite the trend to build less and less substantial cars, BMW have constructed a more substantial one.

400lbs heavier, the new 5 Series has a body-shell over 40% more rigid than the previous model. Stiffness that is an aid to swiftness, as 'Motor' found.

"The car's immensely strong rigid bodyshell also allows it to sail over large crests and dips with a feeling of great integrity. There's very little excess

body movement: control is simply terrific."

Braking is equally sure.

There are ventilated disc brakes all round. The largest of any car in this class, they operate via a powerful new vacuum servo.

And from the 525i, every member of the new 5 Series has the added benefit of ABS.

SO MUCH FOR THE 'STOP'. NOW ON TO THE 'GO'.

The new 5 Series is powered by what is widely acknowledged as the smoothest range of six cylinder engines in existence.

It begins with a tax efficient two litre. And even this is capable of propelling the car at a somewhat academic 125mph.

Next is a 2.5. It develops maximum torque at just 4,300 rpm. Making the 525i particularly adept at motorway overtaking.

Thirdly, there is a 3 litre that develops an impressive 188bhp.

And at the top of the range, a 3.5 that will take the car from 0 to 60mph in just 7.7 seconds.

All four are fuel injected. And they each incorporate a computerised engine management system that constantly 're-tunes' the engine for optimum performance.

The car will also calculate its own service intervals. And memorise any engine fault, no matter how fleeting, then report it on its next visit to a BMW service bay.

But it is the engine's performance not its practicality that will attract the keen driver.

It certainly attracted the man from 'Motor.'

"Throttle response is super-crisp and entirely consistent but most impressive is undoubtedly that superlative mechanical smoothness."

Excellent though the individual components of the 5 Series are, it was the car as a whole that impressed 'Motor' most.

"Its real achievement is in the completeness of its abilities, its depth of talent. BMW's standards appear to march forward irrespective of model range or price."

Over the last 4 years BMW invested 4 million man hours in the development of this new 5 Series. And they drove prototype cars and tested components over 2.9 million miles.

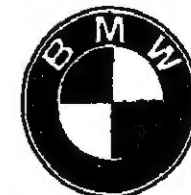
(The equivalent of driving around the world one hundred and sixteen times.)

The car that has emerged packs more advanced technology per square inch than any BMW before. Driving it, however, provides some good old-fashioned rewards.

"The 525i is sporty and civilised, fast and economical, well put together and relatively affordable, comfortable and fun to drive."

"This is a sports car dressed 'as a family saloon, a driving machine which does not sacrifice creature comfort."

These paragraphs represent 'Car's' verdict. BMW now await yours.



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Genetic engineering changes:1

Researchers wrestle over right to patent on man-made mouse

Although God, or nature, created man, a twentieth century scientist might soon own the copyright or patent to the genetic blueprint used in the process.

The possibility arises with proposals to revise the laws covering the rights to new discoveries in genetic engineering.

The question of how far proprietary rights should be allowed to extend over natural products of mankind's genes is about to assume a larger dimension.

It comes in the wake of the largest research project ever undertaken in biology and started in the United States, Europe and Japan. The goal is to produce a complete map which is a catalogue of all human genes.

The venture, which is compared with landing man on the Moon, will cost hundreds of millions of pounds.

The potential reward for producing the map of the human "genome" is enormous.

It contains the genes that control everything from cancer to ageing. About three thousand hereditary diseases are known to be caused by faulty genes.

Cancer researchers are exploring the genetic changes that lead to the disease.

The European Commission wants all member countries to adjust patent regulations by the end of 1991 to accommodate the changes.

The new rules are contained in a Draft EC directive on The Legal Protection of Biotechnological Invention. The rules would give an individual

The European Commission is preparing legislation to allow individuals or companies to obtain a patent on a plant or animal. It is intended to protect the discoveries of genetic engineering that promise to revolutionize the pharmaceutical, agriculture, food processing and chemicals industries. The plan raises moral and ethical issues. Pearce Wright, Science Editor, reports in the first of two articles.

or organization "ownership to plants and animals, resulting from genetic engineering". Over the past five years the European Commission has wrestled with the economic, social and ethical issues raised by the genetic engineering of materials.

Adaptation of plants and animals has been excluded so far from patent law. Hence, recent attempts to use the regulations by drug companies and new biotechnology research firms to protect their inventions have ended in a quagmire.

Crucial battles are being fought in the European and American courts over rival claims to genetic engineering.

An indication of the commercial importance is a contest between Britain's Wellcome Foundation, and Genentech, a leading US biotechnology research laboratory over prior claim to a genetic method for making TPA, or Tissue Plasminogen Activator.

Employing genetic engineering, TPA is now available on a large scale and promises a significant advance in heart treatments.

However, the pressure to resolve issues of ownership have increased with the first patent for a genetically en-

gineered mouse. It was awarded in the US to Dr Philip Leder and Dr Timothy Stewart, of the Harvard Medical School. Although the patent, which is bound to spark controversy, covers engineered mice, it also broadly claims to cover "any species of transgenic non-human mammal," including primates such as rhesus monkeys.

The scientists have created what is in effect a mouse that is highly cancer sensitive.

It was done during the early stage after conception of a mouse. The scientists introduced an oncogene into the embryo at an early stage, so ensuring that the gene would be present in all the tissues when the animal developed.

The research was sponsored by Du Pont, the drug company which holds the right to the patent.

Another patent involving genetic engineering has been granted to Professor Myron Essex and Dr Tun-Hou Lee, also of Harvard University, for part of the AIDS virus to cover a molecule known as GP120. It is a protein molecule on the surface of the AIDS virus, which researchers believe is the key to developing new vaccines for AIDS.

Tomorrow: Genetics of plant breeding

By Bronwen Jones

Links between high levels of serious illness and dust from opencast coal mines have been found by doctors in Glyn-neath, West Glamorgan.

The doctors' two-year investigation, after high prescription costs had been challenged by the Welsh Office, shows extremely high levels of asthma, severe ear infections and continuous gastro-intestinal disorders.

Incidence of asthma last summer were up to 15 times above peak national figures and frequently more than seven times the expected level.

The doctors' findings were revealed at a public inquiry into a proposed 130 hectare mine extension on the edge of the town. The data will be used by environmental pressure groups to oppose plans by the Department of the Environment to relax controls this week on siting opencast mines.

The study carried out among the 7,000 people served by the Glyn-neath group practice strongly suggests that coal-dust is affecting the health of an entire town.

The doctors believe there should be no opencast mining within 16 kilometres of any community.

The Glyn-neath survey has produced similar results to a study at the port of Rowhedge in Essex, where it was shown last summer that double the national asthma rate was attributable to handling of dusty soya, fertilizer and grain cargoes.

One of the four Glyn-neath doctors, Dr Mark Temple said: "A few years ago, the Welsh Office challenged our high prescription rates and an already overstretched practice had to spend time justifying its figures."

"When I came to Glyn-neath, I continued this process and when I looked at statistics on what prescriptions were for, I noticed trends in dust-related illnesses."

Dr Temple said that as he had come from another area,



Dr Temple and his wife, Sarah, with their two children

he could identify high levels of particular diseases that local doctors might have considered quite normal.

The figures in Glyn-neath for ear infection, as well as for asthma, are higher than the overall figures for the same illnesses in West Glamorgan and many times higher than the national average. Women and children are the main victims and both illnesses have the same incidence pattern, with a short time lag for the ear infections to take effect.

Glyn-neath also has a greater pathology than would be expected in gastro-intestinal disorders, non-traumatic joint disease, cancer and foetal abnormalities.

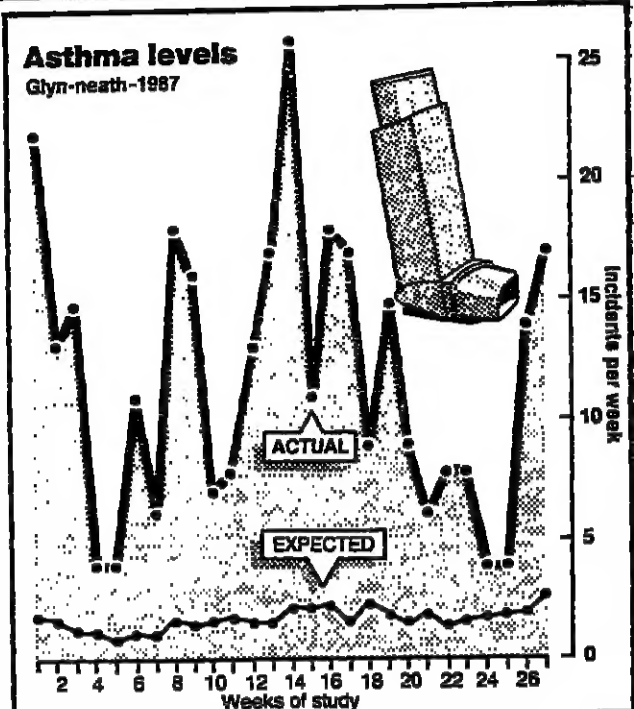
Prescribing for diarrhoea and vomiting, illnesses that affect any population, is continual rather than occasional. Rheumatoid arthritis

incidence is high and peptic ulceration, the doctors believe, is related to coal dust ingestion.

Ear infections in children hinder their education, as they cannot hear tones above a certain pitch. Although operations can be carried out to ease "glue ear" and related infections, Dr Temple says they should not be necessary on the scale they are called for in Glyn-neath.

A recently retired local teacher, Mrs Nancy Thomas, said she had noted an increase in pupils' hearing-related learning problems when opencast coalmining increased.

Dr Temple's two daughters have ear infections that he attributes to the dust levels and he has considered moving away for their sake. He has stayed out of a sense of duty for his patients.



Test may uncover dishonest workers

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Job applicants' attitudes are being compared with those of prisoners in a psychological test to see if they are likely to be dishonest.

A study by Permetric Ltd, which has devised and marketed the test, says that of an average group of 100 British job applicants, about nine or ten could be expected to reveal attitudes similar to those of prisoners convicted for theft and fraud.

About eight or nine would give indeterminate answers and five would fake good answers in an attempt to defeat the test.

Permetric has produced the test in response to concern about mounting losses facing most companies. It says that in some industries 75 per cent of the losses may be due to internal theft.

The test will also predict how an employee will act under pressure. Permetric says there is a correlation between emotional stability and dishonest attitudes and that one in three employees are likely to have a high risk of emotional instability or combination of both.

The test was devised by Dr Paul Barrett, a research fellow of the Institute of Psychiatry, London. Researchers studied the attitudes of prisoners - convicted mainly for theft and dishonesty - towards the

issues of crime and punishment, right and wrong, guilt and innocence.

Mr Bruce Gifford, Permetric's managing director, says employees who steal rationalize by saying they feel underpaid and unappreciated. They may harbour a grudge for being rebuffed for something they did not do or because they had to work extra hours without pay, and, in their view, were taking what they are owed.

The questionnaire asks for "yes" or "no" answers to such statements as: "If an employee is being underpaid it is OK for him to take just enough to compensate for the difference", "fear of being caught keeps most people honest", "seeing an opportunity to steal every day will eventually weaken an employee's resolve to be honest" or "Have you ever cheated in an exam?"

Permetric says the test is designed not to replace but complement the judgement of the personnel executive.

A template is placed over the completed questionnaire and a computer determines whether the answers are close to those found in the survey of more than 1,000 prisoners. If they are too close the applicants are suspect.

About 77 per cent of job applicants disclose attitudes satisfying most employers.

Sadler is co-leader in chess

By Raymond Keene Chess Correspondent

Matthew Sadler, the chess prodigy aged 14, shares the lead after the weekend rounds of the Watson Farley and Williams Challenge in the City of London.

Sadler, from Rochester, Kent, needs one draw from his last two games to clinch his international master result.

Round eight results: Sadler beat Hebden; Morwan beat Evans; Norwood beat Westerman; King beat Hodgson; Fedorowicz drew with Susan Arkell; Keith Arkell drew with Levitt.

Round nine results: Keith Arkell beat Westerman; Hodgson lost to Morwan; Levitt drew with Sadler; Evans beat Norwood; Susan Arkell lost to King; Hebden beat Fedorowicz.

Scores (players England unless stated): Sadler, Morwan (Scotland) and Keith Arkell, 5½ points; Fedorowicz (USA) and Hodgson, 5; King, Westerman (Finland) and Levitt, 4½; Norwood 4; Evans (United States) and Hebden, 3½; Susan Arkell, 3.

The moves from Sadler's game, playing white, against Hebden, who resigned on move 29, were:

1 d4 Nf6 15 dxe6 Bxe6
2 c4 g6 16 Ne5 Ne8
3 Nc3 Bg7 17 f4 Bxb5
4 e4 d2 18 e5 Bc5
5 f3 0-0 19 Qd1 Nc4
6 Bg5 Nc6 20 e5 Nc7
7 Ng2 e6 21 Bb1 Bb4
8 Qd2 Bb8 22 Qd4 Nc5
9 Rf1 Bb6 23 Qd4 Nc1
10 Bb3 Bb7 24 Qd4 Nc1
11 e5 Nc7 25 f5 Nc5
12 Ng3 c5 26 Nf6+ Bc6
13 Bb3 b5 27 Bxb5 Nc2+
14 0-0 e5 28 Kg1

Motorway repairs

UK traffic jams set record

By Daniel Ward, Motor Industry Correspondent

The UK suffers from the most crowded motorways of any European country, the British Road Federation says.

Britain's 6,709 vehicles per km of motorway represents an improvement on the situation in 1975, yet is almost 30 per cent greater than France, the Continental country with the highest proportion of vehicles for motorway mileage.

Motorway traffic in 1986 grew by 12.2 per cent, according to the federation's latest statistics, yet after the opening of the M25 orbital in 1986 only one mile of motorway was completed last year.

The federation complains: "Since the Government came to office in 1979, receipts from road user taxation have rocketed by more than 60 per cent in real terms yet expenditure on our road system has grown by only 4 per cent. Roadworks until next Monday: London and South-east

M1 London: contraflow between jns 4-5 (Edgware/Harrow); entry and exit slips, in 4, closed until end of month.

M1 Buckinghamshire: contraflow north of jn 14 (Newport Pagnell); slips at jn 14 closed except southbound exit.

M25 Surrey: no hard shoulder during daytime between jns 11-13 (Chertsey/Staines), and overnight lane closures. M25 Herefordshire: lane closures in both directions between jns 24-25 (Potters Bar/A10).

M11 Essex: contraflow between jns 6-7 (M25/Harlow); lane closures between jns 8 (Bishop's Stortford) and jn 10 (Duxford).

M2 Kent: outside lane closed in both directions near jn 5 (Sittingbourne) during peak times; off-peak down to one lane London-bound, and hard shoulder only coast-bound.

M20 Kent: lane restrictions between jns 11-12 (Hythe/Cheriton).

Midlands

M5 Hereford/Worcester: contraflow between jns 5-6 (Droitwich/Worcester north).

M6 W Midlands: southbound entry slip road from Salford Circus closed; lane closures between jns 6-7 (Spaghetti Jn area).

M54 Shropshire: lane closures between jns 5-6 (Telford/A518).

North

M6 Cheshire: contraflow between jns 16-17 (Kilgobbin/Sandbach); contraflow between jns 21a-23 (M62/A580).

M62 Greater Manchester: installation of new signalling system; intermittent lane closures between jns 12-25 (M63/Brighouse).

M62 Lancashire: lane restrictions between jns 21-22 (A640/A672); mandatory 50 mph limit.

M63 Greater Manchester: contraflow for widening of Barton Bridge between jns 1-7 (M62/A56).

M65 Lancashire: construction of two roundabouts at jn 13 (A682).

Wales and West

M4 Ayles: two lanes closed westbound between jns 18-19 (A49/Bristol).

M4 Gwent: lane closures between jns 25-26 (Caerleon/A4042) at the Brynllais tunnels.

M4 Mid-Glamorgan: lane restrictions between jns 34-35 (Rhonda/Pen-coed).

M5 Gloucestershire: lane closures in both directions between jns 9-11 (Tewkesbury-Cheltenham/Gloucester).

Scotland

M8 Lothian: eastbound traffic down to hard shoulder only at jn 3 (A899); access from A899 closed.

M73 Strathclyde: westbound inside lane closed on slip to M74.

M74 Strathclyde: lane closures between jns 4-5 (Maryville/Bothwell interchanges).

Information supplied by the AA Roadwatch

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Todd tries to force union's hand over Labour vote

By Roland Rudd

Mr Ron Todd will attempt this week to persuade the executive of the Transport and General Workers' Union formally to nominate Mr Roy Hattersley for the deputy leadership of the Labour Party.

That would make it virtually impossible for his delegation to switch sides on the eve of the party conference.

Mr Todd, the union's general secretary, is anxious to secure Mr Hattersley's nomination, rather than just a simple vote in favour of the present Labour deputy leader, to prevent the union's delegation casting its 1.25 million block vote in favour of Mr John Prescott at the last minute.

Under union rules the delegation to the Labour Party, which will vote on the leadership election the Sunday before the conference starts in October, cannot disregard an executive nomination, although it could overturn a simple vote.

Without the support of Britain's biggest trade union Mr Prescott's chances of winning the deputy leadership are minimal.

Mr Todd is confident that his executive will accept his

call to back the current leadership after Mr Neil Kinnock made it clear that a vote for Mr Prescott is a vote against his own leadership.

A vote for Mr Prescott would be a damaging blow for Mr Todd, who has put his authority on the line.

The hard-left have made it clear, however, that if Mr Todd gets his way he must be prepared to compromise on some policy review proposals which have been passed by Labour's national executive.

Labour Party sources yesterday dismissed as "absolute rubbish" any suggestions that Mr Kinnock would be willing to consider any aspects of the policy review in exchange for backing Mr Hattersley.

While Mr Kinnock is not willing to countenance such a deal, executive members close to the Labour leader admit concessions will have to be made if they get their way over Mr Hattersley's nomination.

A leading TGWU source said yesterday: "We are going to have problems over the policy review, and in particular over the economic strategy which waters down our commitment to nationalization."

Brothers in the picture at last



Ivy Smith, the Norfolk artist, has begun work on a portrait of the Attenborough brothers for the National Portrait Gallery, part of her prize for winning the John Player Portrait Award in 1986. The brothers have been away so much —

Sir David (centre) on wildlife tracks, Sir Richard filming *Cry Freedom* — that it is only now that they have found time to sit together. The portrait in oils should be on view in the gallery's contemporary portrait collection by the new year.

Tomorrow Mr Peter Blake, the artist, will announce the winner of the 1988 award. More than 700 entries have been received of which 59 will be on show until September 4.

(Photograph: Bryn Colton)

WHITEHALL BRIEF

by David Walker

Rivers man is off to higher ground

Mr David Renshaw is home-hunting. The former director of the Merseyside Task Force is not, however, facing Whitehall's favourite torture for Civil Servants from the regions, finding an affordable house in the London area.

Instead, he is on the lookout for an office to house the National Rivers Authority, the shadow body of which he has just become chief administrator.

Mr Renshaw, currently squatting in an office at the Department of the Environment, needs to illustrate, if only symbolically, the independence of the quango he has to create.

In keeping with the spirit of the times, and the parsimony of Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, the authority's presence in London is going to be lean.

However, it needs a high enough profile to convince doubters that it will be a regulator with teeth sharp enough to bite, when necessary, on the private water companies.

The authority exists neither on paper nor in law. However, it does have a chairman, a superannuated government minister, Lord Crickhowell, who as Mr Nicholas Edwards was Secretary of State for Wales.

The shadow authority also has Mr Renshaw, aged 50, a career official who joined the Ministry of Labour as an executive officer and worked up through the Department of Transport.

However, Mr Renshaw's qualifications come from more recent experience. He worked in water quality and water pollution for four years in the late 1970s and early 1980s, time enough (he says) to make contacts and to see the life of the land.

More pertinent is his experience of public administration in a charged political context, as head of the Merseyside Task Force, a creation of Mr Michael Heseltine after the Toxteth riots in 1981.

The task force was intended as a spearhead for private and public sector co-operation in rebuilding Liverpool and its hinterland. As

a sign of the importance attached to its work, the task force was given a director at under-secretary rank, the same grade as the powerful Department of Environment regional officers.

Mr Renshaw was the eyes and ears of the Cabinet when Liverpool threatened to plunge into financial chaos under the sway of Mr Derek Hatton.

During the years of brinkmanship, in particular in 1985, Mr Renshaw was in continuous touch with both Whitehall and the Chief Constable of Merseyside.

During the next couple of months, the water authorities



Mr Renshaw, Whitehall's shadow rivers supreme

are to send to Mr Ridley their proposals for privatization and for handing over to the rivers authority the staff working on river basin management. Mr Renshaw, who is chief executive of the rivers authority's advisory committee, will advise the Secretary of State on the proposals.

Mr Renshaw says in setting up the authority, he will be drawing on institutional wisdom from, for example, the formation of the urban development corporations.

What matters as much as the extent of the authority's powers (to be set out in detail in the water privatization legislation) is presenting the water companies with a clear regulatory regime.

For the moment, Mr Renshaw is establishing contacts, talking to the water authorities about dividing up staff and assets. Eventually, the authority will need headquarters. However, he asks, why should they be in London?

Bill 'will confuse tenants'

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

The Government's Housing Bill does not go far enough in encouraging private investment in former public housing and in the creation of a new rental market, a former special housing adviser to the Government says.

Dr David Coleman, fellow of Linacre College, Oxford, who was at the Department of the Environment, says the Bill, due to return to the House of Commons on Thursday, gives too great a role to housing associations.

He says the associations have repeatedly given "a dusty answer to the Government's hopes that they will be

its vanguard in liberating the council estates".

He gives his views in an article in the latest issue of *Economic Affairs* magazine.

Commenting on the Bill which aims to increase the private rented sector and give tenants a wider choice of landlord, Dr Coleman argues that the Government's approach to the Bill was like trying to run a railway system on three separate gauges.

"Different kinds of tenants will get different kinds of help: council rents, housing association rents and private rents will not be determined on the same basis".

It would complicate transfers from council tenancy, one of the new rights for tenants.

"Tenants will only choose to transfer if they think that, on the whole, they will be better off in doing so."

"On present arrangements this will tend to shut out private investors, however substantial or respectable, in favour of housing associations unless appropriate new channels for subsidies can be provided."

● The Small Landlords Association said yesterday that it was concerned at the "draconian" penalties for harassment proposed in the Bill. Under the proposals damages will comprise the difference between the tenanted value and the vacant possession value of the property.

£1m finger rings on market

The Harari collection, the last great collection of finger rings to come to the art market can be seen at Phillips in Bond Street from Thursday, when the prices will range from £1,000 to £200,000.

The collection, once owned by Ralph Harari (1893-1969), soldier, administrator, merchant banker and collector, is of about 90 rings, with an estimated value "in excess of £1 million".

At the top end of a collection including Greek, Roman, medieval and Renaissance rings, comes a chunky sixteenth century gold ring set with a sapphire. It is engraved with the Papal tiara and crossed keys and Farnese arms, showing that it once

SALEROOM
by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market
Correspondent

belonged to Pope Paul III, who was a patron of Michelangelo and Titian.

As the expert Diana Scarisbrick writes in the catalogue, it is particularly rare because most of its fellows were buried with their owners. She also compares its quality and design to the ring on the hand of Pope Julius II, in the National Gallery's portrait of him, by Raphael.

The Harari collection first made its appearance on the market in 1976 when Phillips

offered 216 rings, including the Farnese ring, at \$27,750.

The jewellers acquired the collection from the Harari family in 1975 but, as Mr Nicholas Norton of S J Phillips, explains: "We stopped selling when we felt we had sold enough".

For the exhibition, he has managed to buy about a dozen back. In the middle price range, at £25,000, comes a fourth century gold relief ring decorated with the head of Apollo as the Sun. Another has an intaglio portrait of James II, his head crowned with laurels and shown in profile.

Cheapest of all, at £1,100, is a humble Roman ring with a cornelian intaglio

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Foreign faithful mark religious milestone in Russian history

Controversy mars start of millennium festivities

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Elaborate celebrations approved by the Kremlin to mark the Russian Christian millennium got off to a controversial start yesterday. Leading foreign churchmen were permitted to attend the colourful opening service in Moscow while local believers were kept far away from the event behind special crowd control barriers.

Western journalists, already angered by the rigid bureaucracy which has surrounded the organization of the jubilee, looked on as one old woman called Maria wept as she pleaded with an official on the pavement.

"I come to this church every day," she told him. "Please let me stand just a little nearer."

Among those already inside the blue and gold Epiphany Cathedral were the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, the Vatican representative, Cardinal Jan Willebrands, and hundreds of other foreign churchmen who joined the elderly Russian Orthodox Patriarch in a service of Thanksgiving for 1,000 years of Russian faith.

Catholic Bishop Wilhelm Nukes, from the Baltic republic of Latvia, which two years ago celebrated 800 years of Christianity, was one of those dignitaries who said that he felt more ordinary people should have been attending. "I

would have let everybody in," he said. "They could have spilled out on to the pavement, and no harm would have been done."

As it was, hundreds of yards from the cathedral, Soviet police were already barring traffic. Closer in, pedestrians were being kept behind the barriers. The area around the church was nearly empty.

Inside, splendidly robed priests of many denominations and countries mopped their brows in the heat as a choir on the balcony intoned the mysterious chants of the Orthodox service.

For some of the official guests, the long and arcane Orthodox rite proved too much on a swelteringly hot day in which temperatures hit the 80s. "I do not understand the language and I could not see anything," explained a Jamaican pastor, the Rev Terence Rose, after escaping for a walk outdoors. "I am used to seeing the congregation participating more."

A more positive assessment was given by Dr Runcie, who seemed pleased with the arrangements. He told reporters before entering the cathedral that he thought the celebrations would help to develop religious freedom in the Soviet Union, which is officially atheist.

Yesterday's festive Mass



Faces of the faithful in Moscow's Cathedral of the Epiphany yesterday at a service starting an 11-day festival to mark the Russian Church's millennium.

was the first of many services due to be held in Moscow, and later in the provincial cities of Kiev, Vladimir and Leningrad, to mark the passage of 1,000 years since the pagan state of Rus was converted to Christianity by Prince Vladimir in the year 988. Among

those worshipping yesterday were Jamaican Methodists, Japanese Catholics, US Presbyterians and even a chaplain from the Polish Army. Also present was the Brazilian theologian, Leonardo Boff, who was ordered by the Vatican to stop preach-

ing radical solutions to poverty. A rigid system of eight different categories of passes has been devised to cover restricted entrance to the various celebrations and already there have been ugly scenes outside the accreditation centre in Moscow's towering

Ukraine Hotel where many of the delegations are housed. Soviet dissidents have expressed widespread cynicism about the celebrations, which they believe are being manipulated by the Kremlin to improve its tarnished human rights image abroad, while not

providing any concrete guarantees of improved toleration of religious practices. The dissidents maintain that the decision by the state to return 35 buildings to the Orthodox Church since Mr Gorbachev took power in 1985 is only a minuscule gesture. They note

that only 7,000 churches are now working, compared with 70,000 in the Russian Empire before the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution.

However, on the eve of the celebrations — which will culminate next Sunday in the Trinity Cathedral of Moscow's Danilov monastery — there were two separate gestures regarded by diplomats as genuine signs of a Kremlin softening in its attitude towards Christianity.

It was announced by Metropolitan Filaret of Kiev and Galich that the Russian Orthodox Church would open discussions next month with the Vatican about the future of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, which since its forced merger under Stalin's orders in 1946 has operated underground and has some four million adherents anxious for official recognition.

The talks, due to take place in Finland, are believed to have the tacit support of the Kremlin.

The Metropolitan also disclosed that on June 7 the state would partially hand back to the Church the 11th Century Kiev Pechersky monastery, which has been a museum since 1961, when it was closed by the Soviet authorities. It contains the holy spot where Prince Vladimir ordered mass baptisms in 988.

Ligachov attack, page 10
Ice-breaking summit, page 14

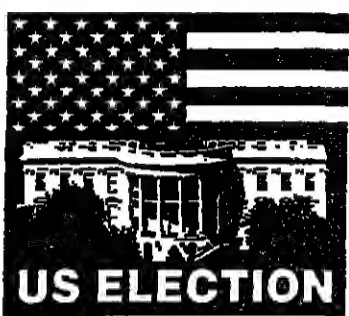
Splits in Jackson camp as crusade reaches crossroads

From Charles Bremner
Los Angeles

"Vote to keep hope alive," the Rev Jesse Jackson, belittled as he roused enthusiastic California crowds this weekend, from the farms of the rugged north to the ghettos of Los Angeles.

But with Mr Michael Dukakis virtually certain of victory in the final Democratic primaries tomorrow and already campaigning against Mr George Bush, the old Jackson rhetoric is wearing thin. Nervous party insiders are asking again: "What does Jesse want?"

A week ago it looked as though Mr Jackson, the phenomenon of the 1988 campaign, was preparing to make peace with Mr Dukakis and set the stage for compromise at next month's party convention. Then, amid an outbreak of squabbling in Mr Jackson's own camp, he sowed dismay in the party at



large by declaring that he had earned the right to be considered for the crucial vice-presidential position.

No sooner had he said it than his own campaign manager, Mr Gerald Austin, said he believed the strongest vice-presidential ticket the Democrats could muster would pair Mr Dukakis with Senator John Glenn of Ohio. Mr Austin, a New York Jew, speaks for the white

pragmatists in the Jackson camp.

Underlying the confusion is Mr Jackson's own uncertainty over his next step. With the primaries over, "Jesse must decide what Jesse wants". Should he pursue his role as the ultimate maverick — the formula that brought him so far as champion of the deprived and dispossessed — or should he maximize his new status by becoming a powerful party insider? Radicals in Mr Jackson's camp are pushing for the first option: they say that the only way that he can maintain and build his progressive coalition is to stay on the outside. That course would lead to confrontation with Mr Dukakis in Atlanta.

Conventional thinking has it that this could spell disaster for the Democrats, because Mr Dukakis would either settle by adopting too much of the progressive Jackson platform or alienating the big black

vote. The key to the White House lies in the hands of the uncertain middle-ground voters who swarmed to Mr Reagan in 1984 but are now said to be eager for cautious change.

"Jackson can hurt a lot more than he can help in 1988," according to Mr Nelson Pelsley, a senior Berkeley political expert. But several pundits, including Mr Mervyn Field, a veteran Californian pollster, says Mr Dukakis could emerge stronger from a confrontation if he stands up to Mr Jackson on spending, defence and foreign policy, and reinforces his appeal as a mainstream candidate.

The votes he would win from former Reagan voters would outweigh the loss from blacks who decided to stay at home. But Mr Jackson is also aware that his chances in 1992 and 1996 will suffer if he is seen to be a

contributor to Democratic defeat in 1988. He has been ruminating about the prospect of picking up 50 million white votes in 1992.

In the meantime, Mr Jackson says he plans to campaign flat out all the way to the convention on July 20 as a way of developing the most enthusiastic force possible to support his political goals there. After a Hollywood television spectacular tonight, he plans to keep speaking around the country — and possibly abroad — and he will keep his chartered jet.

"I'm often asked... 'What do you want in Atlanta?'" Mr Jackson said, campaigning in Montana this weekend. The answer was a recitation of the old Jackson manifesto for the poor and oppressed: "I want the right to earn enough for adequate food, clothing and recreation for every American... I want the right of every family

to a decent home... I want the right to a good education for every American."

But Mr Jackson is also professing commitment to Democratic victory in November. "I am certain that blacks, Hispanics, Indians, workers, farmers, youth, the physically disabled will be working together in November. Together, we're going to win."

Jackson staff say he will fix his Atlanta goals with his kitchen cabinet after the votes are counted from tomorrow's primaries in California, New Jersey, Montana and New Mexico.

Cherry Hill, New Jersey: In the final weekend of the 1988 presidential primary campaign, Mr Dukakis edged closer to the magic 2,081 delegates needed to clinch the Democratic nomination (AP reports). A count gave him 1,811 to Mr Jackson's 985.

'Two cars' at Rock shootings

By Our Foreign Staff

Mrs Carmen Proetta, who has alleged that two IRA terrorists appeared to be surrendering when they were shot in Gibraltar on March 6, this weekend gave a detailed statement to Mr Manolo Correa, the corner's investigating officer.

In nine written pages, which were read back to her in the presence of a lawyer, she has reaffirmed her account of the deaths of Daniel McCann and Mairead Farrell, and answered questions which could throw new light on the investigation.

Her evidence is that the IRA couple were putting up their hands in surrender. She has also claimed that a second police car delivered the SAS men to the scene, and has identified two different models of police car. Her description will mean that Mr Correa, also a chief inspector in the Gibraltar police force, will probably have to conduct fresh inquiries among his officers.

To date the accepted version has been that there was only one police car, travelling north from the town area, in which there were several officers who were unaware of the IRA operation. It was this car which another witness, Mr Steven Bulloch, in a local radio interview broadcast on March 7, the day after the shooting, said he saw stopped at red traffic lights.

Mrs Proetta gave identifiable descriptions of people at the scene, and Mr Correa, who spent several hours interviewing her, thanked her for her help. Yesterday she confirmed this description of her account to *The Times*.

Informed sources have confirmed that Gibraltar police were under instructions to make arrests and that that was the intention of the operation. At the time it was stated that British forces had acted in support of the local operation headed by Mr Joe Canepa, Gibraltar's police commissioner.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Mugabe criticises white 'arrogance'

Harare (Reuters) — President Robert Mugabe has accused Zimbabwe's prosperous white minority of displaying "British arrogance" towards blacks and failing to adjust to a changed society. Mr Mugabe told black journalists in New York that British background of some whites might be at the root of the problem. "For all the respect I have for the British, they remain British wherever they are. Wherever the British are, it is just that they are superior to everybody in the world, and perhaps our own whites have a bit of this British arrogance."

Eight years since Zimbabwe's independence was a long time for people to adjust. "We do not know what we can do. At the beginning we gave them a choice. Those who wanted to live with us are free to do so — we are not going to go back to the past and start harassing them because of past sins..."

Three Britons drown

Three Britons died and one swam 2½ miles to safety after their 35 ft motor cruiser, *Marvada*, ran aground off France (Andrew Morgan writes). The four left Folkestone last Friday bound for Greece. The craft started sinking on being hit after hitting a sandbank on Saturday near St Valéry-sur-Somme, Picardy. It is believed the men swam away from the boat in the dark but three were defeated by strong winds and currents. Their bodies were recovered early yesterday. They were named as Ramsey Shamar, aged 25 and the boat's owner, from London, Jonathan Gill, aged 19, from London and David Jones, aged 23, from Manchester. The survivor, Michael O'Donnell, 21, was last night recovering from exhaustion in hospital at Abbeville in "good condition".

Warning to strikers

Johannesburg — Police issued warnings at the weekend that they will enforce state of emergency regulations during three days of protests organized by black trade unions planned to start today, and that they will protect people wanting to go to work (Ray Kennedy writes). At the same time employers were preparing court action against union federations.

Fiji coup conspiracy

Sydney — Hundreds of Fijian Indians and their supporters have been involved in a plot to overthrow the military strongman of Fiji, Brigadier Sitiveni Rabuka (Christopher Morris writes). This claim was made yesterday in Sydney by police chiefs investigating last week's discovery of a huge cache of arms being shipped secretly to Fiji. Superintendent Alan Sing, disclosing the conspiracy, said: "There are more people here in Australia involved than we had any idea." Two Fijian Indians were arrested in Sydney at the weekend.

Barre claims victory

President Barre of Somalia said yesterday that his troops had restored order in the north of the country in the wake of rebel attacks (Andrew McEwen writes). But the challenge by the Somali National Movement, whose leader lives in London, is still seen as one of the most serious crises since he came to power 19 years ago. Diplomats believe that as many as 1,000 people may have died in the fight for Hargeisa, the biggest town in the north.

Sri Lanka withdrawal

Colombo (Reuters) — About 2,500 Indian soldiers will begin leaving Sri Lanka this week at the start of India's phased withdrawal of some of its troops on the island, Sri Lankan officials said yesterday. India says it has 52,000 troops on the island, but Sri Lanka says up to 70,000 troops came over as part of last July's pact to end a rebellion by minority Tamils.

Slovenes dream of becoming a second Austria

From Richard Bassett, Ljubljana

At first glance the Slovenes are the people least likely to rock the multi-racial Yugoslav boat. There are barely two million of them. Unlike the Albanians of Kosovo or the Croats, they harbour no long-term grudges against the Serbs in Belgrade. Despite their small numbers, they enjoy full republican status and considerable autonomy.

Moreover, they are traditionally the least political of the Balkan nations. Descended from peasant stock, their economic diligence always overshadowed their political aims. Until the early years of this century, they did not even articulate any home-grown nationalist ideals.

Eighty years later, however, they are proving increasingly to be a thorn in the side of Belgrade's attempts to hold together the country's fragile unity in the face of a deteriorating economic situation.

"The Slovenes are getting too big for their boots," is now frequently heard in Belgrade. In Slovenia, mild contempt for the Balkan machinations of a distant Government in Serbia is hardening. With

economic links well established with neighbouring Austria and Italy, Slovenia is part of the most prosperous part of Yugoslavia.

While Ljubljana may appear somewhat down-at-heel and shabby, less than five miles from the city centre a score of private restaurants,



the envy of visiting West German businessmen, cater for a yuppie class of silk-suited, credit card-wielding Slovenes who drive around country lanes in black BMWs. Baying their clothes in Italy — 40 minutes' drive away — and skiing in Austria throughout the winter, they consider

everything south of Zagreb, a mere 100 miles away, as "Balkan Europe".

"We are Western Europe or at least Central Europe here. We are like the Austrians. We know how to work," Mr Zoran Meskon, a businessman in his thirties observed.

Older Slovenes who recall

Belgrade (Reuters) — The Serbian media have attacked the Republic of Slovenia for hosting a lecture by the Yugoslav dissident, Mr Milovan Djilas, left, as "orchestrated anti-communism with Djilas in the starring role". It was no accident, they said, that the speech — his first since being purged 35 years ago by Tito — took place in Slovenia, where the media were well known for anti-communist actions.

Ljubljana before the Second World War are equally disparaging about their southern neighbours. "You should have seen Ljubljana before the war. There were no drunken Bosnians and Serbs relieving themselves on street corners then," Dr Ivan Snicker said, adding: "If we could go it

alone, we would be a second Austria or Liechtenstein".

To the obvious anxiety of Belgrade, this long-standing, almost traditional feeling of economic superiority has been fortified by a growing sense of political awareness among younger Slovenes.

The Government in Slovenia is considered one of the most liberal in the country. Official youth magazines criticize Belgrade and military service. *Mladina*, the Ljubljana youth weekly, even served warning recently that Belgrade was threatening to intervene militarily in Slovenia's affairs if it did not show more respect for Belgrade's attempts to deal with the present economic crisis.

To the undisputed dismay of traditional Communists in Slovenia, young Slovenes have raised the issue of secession from Yugoslavia at meetings in Ljubljana.

At one of these recently, young Slovenes called on their Government to warn Belgrade that Slovenia was prepared to abandon Yugoslavia unless the Serbs became more tolerant of Slovene political re-

forms. Almost at the same time, the veteran Yugoslav dissident, Mr Milovan Djilas, ventured deep into Slovenia to address intellectuals in Maribor, the republic's second city.

The arrest last Tuesday of Mr Janez Jansa, a young Slovene candidate for the official Slovene Youth Alliance and one of the republic's most articulate leaders, has revealed that a crackdown may well be imminent.

Hardliners in and outside Belgrade must be hoping that by focusing on young intellectuals in Slovenia they will not alienate the majority of Slovenes who, however contemptuous of Belgrade, will not wish their own economic well-being to be undermined by instability in the republic.

But Slovenia in the late 1980s is a different place from the small, insignificant part of pre-war Yugoslavia. Mr Mikhail Gorbachev thought sufficiently highly of the Slovene economy to visit Ljubljana earlier this year.

But the political awakening of the Slovenes is the last thing Belgrade and a fragile Yugoslav state needs.

Verbal war over campaign

Diplomacy wins on D-Day memorial

By Our Foreign Staff

British spirit triumphed yesterday in one of the last great battles of World War Two.

For the past five months British and American veterans of the Normandy landings, and other interested parties, have been waging war over the interpretation of the 1944 campaign to be portrayed in the new official museum in Caen.

In Britain, there was concern that the Americans, with strong financial backing, were trying to rewrite history and eclipse the British role in the invasion, which heralded the death-knell of the Third Reich.

And there was concern that French historians were underplaying the importance of Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, the Allied Commander-in-Chief during the first few weeks of the invasion.

But when the Museum for Peace is opened by President Mitterrand today, the 44th anniversary of D-Day, visitors will be left in no doubt about the success of a hard-fought British campaign.

The museum is full of British exhibits, including a

huge portrait of "Monty" and his Rolls-Royce, which was landed on Day Nine of the invasion. But the crowning glory for the British team is the prominent display of a full-scale replica of an RAF Typhoon, which has pride of place at the museum entrance.

The Typhoon played an important part in the success of the invasion, providing air support for the troops. Ameri-

can pleas that it should be replaced with a Mustang were rejected by French officials.

Even a US-built Sherman tank, widely used by British troops in Normandy, is in the colours of the British 11 Armoured Division.

Brigadier David Webb Carter, the British project officer, said: "As far as British representation is concerned, we have got as much as we could have hoped for. We are pleased Monty's role is being properly recognized."

involved in the planning, preparation and training for the invasion and that he was commander-in-chief of the invasion operation until General Eisenhower took over in the July of 1944.

The British success can be put down to hard work, perseverance and gentle diplomacy with the French.

Lieutenant General Sir Ian Harris, chairman of the Brit-

ish support committee, who commanded the Second Battalion the Royal Ulster Rifles — the first infantry battalion to enter Caen in July 1944 — said: "The French were delighted Britain decided to help in the museum project."

His French-born wife Anne-Marie, who he met just weeks after the invasion, worked closely with the French authorities. "We have formed a very good relationship with the French and I feel the British are well represented in the museum," he said.

However the Americans, who had hoped for much greater representation in the museum, are reported to be "seething" at being outmanoeuvred by the British campaign.

When President Mitterrand opens the Museum for Peace, he will be joined by M Michel Rocard, the Prime Minister, and senior representatives from the 12 other countries involved in the Normandy campaign.

They will include Mr George Younger, the Defence Secretary, officials from both West and East Germany, the Eastern Bloc and a group of Japanese children from Hiroshima.

The bands, pipes and drums of the Royal Irish Rangers and the Queen's Own Highlanders will take part in the celebrations, and a Lancaster, a Spitfire and a Hurricane of the Battle of Britain Flight will circle Caen.

The Type 21 frigate, HMS Active, will berth in Caen after sailing down the Orne canal past Pegasus Bridge — the first part of occupied France to be liberated in the early hours of June 6, 44 years ago.

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Confident Ligachov bounces back with an attack on Yeltsin

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Soviet political infighting in the run-up to the crucial Communist Party conference later this month has intensified with a hard-hitting speech from Mr Yegor Ligachov, the Kremlin No 2, who is widely seen as leader of the conservative faction in the Politburo.

The speech is regarded as having been aimed directly at Mr Boris Yeltsin, the dismissed reformer who last week called for Mr Ligachov's removal from office. It also reasserted the party's control over the democratization process while emphasizing that the Kremlin hierarchy was united behind the reforms.

It gained piquancy because soon after it was delivered to workers at the industrial town of Togliatti, Moscow radio announced that Mr Yeltsin — who was dismissed last year as chief of the Moscow City Communist Party — would be one of the 5,000 conference delegates, as part of the delegation representing the Autonomous Republic of Karelia.

The uncompromising tone of Mr Ligachov's remarks, including his flat rejection of reforms called for recently by a number of leading intellectuals, indicated that he still wields considerable strength in the party and has not lost his influence as some Soviet sources have been suggesting.

"The guarantee of the irreversibility of perestroika is the Communist Party," he said firmly. "Foreign voices want the Soviet Union to have a political opposition and are dishing up the idea of a multi-party system. But if we consider the 'advice' that our country's economy be placed on the footing of Western

market economies, little remains of socialism."

"All that (the advice) is aimed at weakening the political stability in the country, upsetting social justice and stimulating a far-reaching social stratification of society." The remarks drove home the point that Mr Ligachov has a more blinkered view of the future than do the main party reformers, the most radical of whom have called for profound economic changes, such as price rises, and political reforms giving much greater scope to public activity outside the party.

The speech caused dismay among Moscow intellectuals, who had allowed themselves to be lulled by wishful thinking into reading from recent events — notably the now notorious BBC interview given by Mr Yeltsin — that Mr Ligachov's star was in decline.

Mr Ligachov, whose attack on any idea of an opposition was linked by observers with recent KGB harassment of those supporting the fringe group, Democratic Union, which was set up recently to challenge the Communist Party.



Mr Ligachov: Comeback dismays the reformers.

ty's monopoly of power, made what was seen as an obvious reference to the Yeltsin attack.

"Adversaries in the West, and some people in our own country too, are making allegations about differences among the Soviet leadership in the Politburo," he declared. "What can be said about that? In the first place, these allegations have been made more than once, which means they are being made deliberately. Trying to drive a wedge among the leadership is a notorious trick."

Mr Ligachov, who last week secured the public backing of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev in his long-running feud with Mr Yeltsin, combined his claims of unity with an outline of progress linked closely with his own cautious approach.

His speech followed a key meeting of the Moscow City Communist Party on Friday at which a number of well-known reformers were elected to the party's delegation to the conference, while other advocates of increased perestroika were rejected. Among those rejected, even after being reinstated on the candidate list at the start of the meeting, were Mrs Tatyana Zaslavskaya, the sociologist, Mr Gavril Popov and Mr Nikolai Shmelyov, two radical economists, and the playwright, Mikhail Shatrov.

The result of the voting was, seen by analysts here as indicating the overall result of the conference might well be some form of compromise, rather than an outright victory for either the reformers or the conservatives.

Shamir escapes the Shultz hard sell

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State who is in Israel for talks on his plan for Middle East peace based on an Israeli willingness to exchange territory for peace, had two meetings yesterday with Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Prime Minister.

But Mr Shamir was due to leave last night for New York to attend tomorrow's United Nations conference on disarmament, allowing Mr Shultz little time to break down his entrenched resistance to several elements of the American plan, including the "territory for peace" principle and the convening of an international peace conference in the area.

The Jerusalem Post yesterday saw Mr Shamir's decision to go to the UN as a deliberate snub to Mr Shultz. "One cannot imagine a worse snubbing by Israel's Prime Minister of the friendliest and most understanding American Secretary of State in recent memory," it said in a leading article.

Mr Shultz plans to have meetings with the Foreign Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, and the Defence Minister, Mr Yitzhak Rabin.

As well as discussing his peace initiative, Mr Shultz briefed the Israelis on last week's Moscow summit meeting, and discussed human rights in the occupied territories and the decision to deport Dr Meharak Awad, director of the Jerusalem-based Palestinian Centre for the Study of Non-Violence.

The High Court here yesterday rejected the appeal against deportation by Mr Awad, a native of Arab East Jerusalem but now a US citizen after having left Jerusalem some 13 years ago.

The court ruled that he had forfeited his permanent resident status when he went to live in the United States, and as he had turned down the option to adopt Israeli citizenship when Jerusalem was annexed after its capture in



Mr Awad holding an olive branch given to him by a supporter after the court decision.

1967 he had no other legal status in the city. Accordingly, the Interior Minister was within his rights both in ordering Mr Awad's expulsion once his tourist visa had expired and in refusing to renew that visa on the grounds that he constituted a threat to public order.

Legal experts have pointed

to the far-reaching implications of the court's ruling for all Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem, the vast majority of whom have refused to become Israeli citizens.

But Mr Awad was philosophical about the outcome. "As a Palestinian in an army coat, a Christian under Jewish justice, a resident of occu-

pled Jerusalem in an Israeli court, I was aware of my chances," he observed in a statement read by his wife.

The court has ordered that he remain in custody until Sunday, pending the outcome of his libel suit against the Maariv newspaper, after which he may be deported at any time.

Refugees may be housed in factories

Hong Kong — Vietnamese refugees arriving here later this month will be housed in rented factory space if the summer influx continues, government sources said.

Fears of a summer flood of refugees came a step nearer at the weekend as a further 622 Vietnamese boat people were intercepted. Already this year 6,178 refugees have reached Hong Kong, compared with 3,395 last year. Two former refugee camps, reopened in the last fortnight, are full.

Rebel ambush

Kohima, India (Reuter) — Rebels fighting for an independent homeland for the Naga tribe shot dead six soldiers in an ambush in Nagaland, Indian Defence Ministry sources said.

Korea protest

Seoul (AFP) — Mr Park Rae Jon, a Seoul university student, is in critical condition in hospital after setting himself on fire as a gesture to demand reunification of the two Koreas.

Typhoid hits

Ankara (Reuter) — An outbreak of typhoid fever and diarrhoea has hit south-eastern Turkey and tourist areas on the Mediterranean coast.

Border open

Algiers (AFP) — Algeria and Morocco, which resumed diplomatic relations last month, have reopened two frontier crossings that have been closed for 12 years.

Typhoon toll

Manila (Reuter) — Thirty-six people, including 27 miners, are feared dead in the Philippines after Typhoon Susan triggered a week of floods.

Politicians scramble to win spoils from Pakistan crisis

From Michael Hamlyn, Islamabad

President Zia's sacking of his Prime Minister and dismissal of the Pakistan National Assembly has thrown the politicians he evidently despises into a frenzy of hope, speculation and negotiation. All are scrambling for whatever prize may be obtained from the turmoil.

The focus is on negotiations to decide an interim Prime Minister. But the country is also watching with amazement as the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, the nine-party group which bore the brunt of the campaign against martial law, continues to tear itself apart.

Even within the Pakistan People's Party, the major opposition group led by Miss Benazir Bhutto, the strains are showing, with its Punjab wing trying to assert its independence and a number of feudal leaders wondering whether they might not be better off fighting an election under another party's banner.

The principal contender for the vacant prime ministerial chair is Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi, who dashed back to Pakistan from the United States as soon as he heard the Government had been ousted.

Mr Jatoi, who broke away from Miss Bhutto's party after quarrelling with her and founded the National People's Party, has twice been offered the Prime Minister's job by President Zia, twice rejected it out of loyalty to the opposition, and twice regretted it.

Now he has been offered the post of Chief Minister of Sindh, but is unwilling to take it. He wants to be Prime Minister. But he will take it only on two conditions, according to Dr Sarfraz Mir, a friend, relative

and National People's Party leader. The first is a guarantee that elections will be called at the appropriate time; the second, that relations between the Prime Minister and other ministers be placed on an agreed footing, and ministers do not report directly to the President.

Newspapers cite a third condition, that his friend Mr Ghulam Mustafa Khar, presently in Rawalpindi jail charged with involvement in a political massacre in the time of Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, be released.

It seems unlikely, however, that he would make this a condition. It would be some-



Mr Jatoi: Prepared to step down as his party's leader.

thing he could deal with once he was in the post. It has also been reported that one reason for the dismissal as Prime Minister of Mr Mohammed Khan Junejo was that he, too, was planning Mr Khar's release.

The Movement for the Restoration of Democracy has been meeting in Karachi to try to hammer out a common policy. The group nearly broke

up when Miss Bhutto threatened to remove her party. The argument was over the number of seats that would be allocated to the other eight parties in an electoral alliance. They wanted 40 per cent, but Miss Bhutto said that they would examine the position constituency by constituency; whoever had the best chance of winning would become the jointly supported candidate.

Since she feels that her party's candidate would win almost all cases be the one most likely to succeed, she would have no interest in granting tickets to people who would not be under her control.

The Movement was supposed to end two days of deliberations yesterday but decided to carry on into a third day. The group is also divided by Miss Bhutto's party proposing to create a permanent structure for the alliance. The leadership rotates every three months, with the result that small parties find themselves in prominent positions.

Miss Bhutto does not like that and expects the predominant position of her party to be recognized. But Muslim fundamentalist parties have not yet reconciled themselves to the leadership of a woman.

The alliance's principal opponent, the Pakistan Muslim League, is also in disarray. Until a week ago it was the ruling party, created by Mr Junejo from the remnants of the old Muslim League run by his patron, the religious leader, the Pir of Pagara, and National Assembly supporters. Mr Junejo is reported to be prepared to step down as leader.

Sotheby's Peking auction

Tepid bidding by jet set

Peking (Reuter) — Millions dipped into their pockets yesterday as Sotheby's held its first art auction in Communist China to raise money to save Venice from sinking and the Great Wall from crumbling.

"Bidding will be in yuan... We accept all currencies," said the auctioneer, Mr Julian Thompson, speaking in Peking's Forbidden City before the auction. For those unfamiliar with Chinese money, an electronic scoreboard flashed up prices in sterling, dollars, French francs, yen and West German marks.

An audience of 200 wealthy foreign visitors, who each paid £2,529 for a luxury weekend in Peking, crowded into what was once the Hall of Ancestors but was renamed the Workers' Culture Palace after the Communist takeover in 1949.

Sixty-six lots of contemporary Western and Chinese art, including a jug by Picasso and gowns by Guy Laroche, were put up for sale, raising about £291,084, about half the

amount hoped for by the organizers. Most pieces were donated and Sotheby's waived its usual 10 per cent commission. Profits were to be divided equally for the preservation and restoration of Venice and the Great Wall.

"Extravagant? No, I don't think a weekend in Peking is too extravagant," drawled a young American.

"The catalogue costs more than I earn in a month," one of the Chinese attendees said, pointing to the 100 yuan (nearly £17) brochure. "It's a funny world."

Bidding was only occasionally lively. Some lots failed to attract any interest and many failed to reach catalogue estimates. One disappointment was a water-colour by Deng Lin, daughter of China's paramount leader, Mr Deng Xiaoping. It only fetched the equivalent of £1,400, well below the £3,750 estimate.

Boos echoed from the back of the ancient pillared hall

when a creation by the French artist Arman was sold to a restaurateur for the highest price of the evening — £36,564. "Some people think he's better at marketing his art than making it," carped one woman. Entitled "Peking Corner Number One", the canvas created it on stage the evening before, smashing violins and a cello on to canvas.

The jet-setters' luxury weekend has included champagne and caviar on the Great Wall itself, cordoned off by the Chinese authorities for a special fee of £31,764, breakfast in the Temple of Heaven, where China's emperors made sacrifices, and a masked ball in the state guest house.

NEW YORK: Sotheby's auction here on Saturday saw prices for Oriental rugs and carpets tripling estimates (Jenny Gilbert writes). A European private collector gave £148,300 for the faded glories of a 17th-century Persian carpet. It had been estimated that it would fetch £53,000 at most.

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Barco scraps US trip as crisis grows in Colombia

From Our Correspondent, Bogotá

President Barco Vargas of Colombia has cancelled a trip to the United States to deal with a political crisis stemming from the kidnapping of a prominent politician. The move follows a series of public stoppages and protests last week over civil violence.

In cities and towns throughout the nation, Colombians briefly stopped work to demand the release of Dr. Álvaro Gómez Hurtado, a leading political figure kidnapped a week ago yesterday. Thursday's demonstration of national solidarity was called by the Liberal Government with the support of the opposition Social Conservative Party and the left-wing Unión Patriótica.

President Barco held an emergency Cabinet meeting on Saturday. He had hurried home from visits to Portugal, Spain and Italy last week, and had planned to leave yesterday for the United States. There he would have held talks with President Reagan and addressed a UN General Assembly session on disarmament. Señor Julio Londoño Paredes, the Foreign Minister, was sent instead.

"Colombia needs at this moment more than ever authentic and efficient international solidarity," a presidential statement said.

The authorities said they had no clue to Dr. Gómez's whereabouts. But a government spokesman last week claimed to have uncovered conclusive evidence that Dr. Gómez, twice a Conservative presidential candidate, had been kidnapped by the pro-Cuban National Liberation Army, responsible for a wave of abductions of foreign diplomats last month. Those officials were released un-

harmned within a few days, but it is feared that Dr. Gómez, aged 69, received gunshot wounds when he was seized after attending Mass at his local church in Bogotá. His bodyguard was shot dead.

The Government's charge of responsibility ended strong speculation in the media that the kidnapping was linked to the Colombian cocaine cartel in the second largest city, Medellín, and to confederates of a top racketeer, Carlos Lehder, recently convicted on multiple drug-smuggling charges after a seven-month trial in Jacksonville, Florida.

The long arm of the Colombian drug mafia was made apparent again last week when police in Madrid reported that they had foiled a plot by the Medellín cartel to assassinate President Barco during his visit to the Spanish capital. The plot was said to be in revenge for Lehder's extradition to the US in February last year.

Ironically, violence has escalated as Colombian democracy has increased. Last Wednesday the country's first freely-elected mayors took office. In calling for Thursday's demonstration, the Interior Minister, Señor César Gaviria Trujillo, who was acting President during Señor Barco's absence, pointed out that Dr. Gómez had been an early proponent of mayoral elections as a means of opening up and strengthening democracy.

President Barco now finds himself under increasing pressures to display strong leadership. He must find a way to curb the violence perpetrated by the drug mafia and by political extremists on both left and right.

Prince accused of snub to crowd



Prince Edward inspecting the guard of honour at Government House in Ottawa at the start of an eight-day visit to Canada. The visit was launched on a high-spirited note on Saturday when he started about 200 onlookers at an award ceremony at Government House by suddenly bursting into applause and urging them to do the same with the words:

"Could we show a little more enthusiasm?" The crowd clapped enthusiastically as the remaining 44 recipients of Duke of Edinburgh awards received their certificates. Later, Prince Edward apologized for the "ticking off", adding: "But it did give a nice atmosphere when we started, didn't it?" His arrival at Government House — home of Canada's

Governor-General, Mrs Jeanne Sauvée — struck a sour note when he seemed to ignore about 500 people gathered outside to welcome him. After inspecting the guard of honour, the Prince walked past the crowd, looking straight ahead. Many of the onlookers were offended, and one woman said that she would write a letter of complaint to Buckingham Palace.

Mine blast mix-up

Rescuers knew of six survivors

From John England, Bonn

Six West German miners, trapped for three days by an explosion and assumed to be dead before being found in an air pocket, had radio contact with rescuers only hours after the blast, mine officials admitted yesterday.

But the men were told to keep quiet so that rescue teams could listen for sounds from other trapped men. It was the last the six survivors of the disaster at the lignite mine at Borken, in Hesse, heard from the outside world until their rescue on Saturday.

Officials on Wednesday denied reports that there had been radio contact with some of the 57 trapped men. Next day they indicated that they believed all those caught at a depth of 330 ft must be dead.

But Herr Heinz Cramer, chairman of the Preussische Elektra mine company, said yesterday there had been a brief radio link only three hours after the midday explosion. There had been no further contact, and rescue supervisors had then believed that what they had heard was walkie-talkie traffic between rescue teams underground.

The disclosure of what could have been a fatal error of judgement has brought a sour note to the joy and relief

over the survival of the lucky five Germans and a Turk. Borken was mourning yesterday the known 45 dead after the discovery of eight more bodies during the night, leaving six men still missing.

One of the rescued men, Herr Thomas Ceppert, aged 37, a leading mine hand and volunteer fireman with safety and survival training, is credited with having saved his group. While nine other men raced instinctively for the exit shaft, he led his party to a gallery cut-de-sac in a successful search for an air pocket.

"We didn't hear the explosion, but felt the blast wave", he said. "We thought the explosives store had gone up. I knew we would soon be in danger from gas, so quickly looked for a safe corner. We tested the air with our cigarette lighters and found a pocket of clean air about 100 yards long at the end of a gallery. Then we settled down to wait for rescue."

The men had lunch boxes and water bottles, but Herr Ceppert told them to eat and drink as little as possible, and to lie down and breathe lightly. Only one lamp was used at a time and the men took turns in using two hammers to signal rescue teams.

Grumbles over EEC secrecy

Brussels View
By Richard Owen

With the Moscow meeting between President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev over, Mrs Thatcher is preparing for two Western summit meetings this month — the Toronto Western economic meeting and the EEC summit in Hanover.

At the Hanover summit, in particular, the issues — such as a European central bank — will affect the lives of the 320 million people in the Community. But what control will British taxpayers — or French or German taxpayers — have over decisions made in Hanover?

For a growing number of Euro-MPs, including some in Mrs Thatcher's party, the answer is "disturbingly little". As Mr Bill Newton Dunn, Tory MEP for Lincolnshire, argues in a discussion paper released in Brussels yesterday, EEC decisions are still largely taken in secret. As the single European market approaches in 1992, hundreds of fundamental decisions about our daily lives are taken in Brussels and then presented to national parliaments as law.



Mr Newton Dunn: Brussels decisions rubber-stamped in Brussels. "The truth is that national MPs have already lost their powers to control EEC decisions," Mr Newton Dunn observes.

This is not a message that Westminster, or any other Parliament, likes to hear. Nor is its corollary: that the lack of democratic control over decision-making — known in EEC jargon as the "democratic deficit" — can be remedied by a transfer of power to the European Parliament, by making the appointment of Commissioners an open process, and by exposing the meetings of the Council of Ministers to public scrutiny.

The 17-man EEC Commission draws up proposals, the European Parliament examines them, offering an "opinion", and the Council of Ministers (made up of ministers from the Twelve) then passes or rejects them. There is no appeal and no right of amendment. Asked a few years ago what the procedures were for democratic control of EEC decisions, Mrs Thatcher were subject to said they

tiny". But as Mr Newton Dunn points out, Westminster debates on EEC matters are purely "play acting". Ministers report to Parliament not to see whether an EEC decision should be amended or overturned but "to convince MPs how well they personally did during the secret negotiations in Brussels".

This argument tends to underestimate the extent to which decision-making can be scrutinized during the long haul from proposal to directive. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, justifies the secrecy of Council proceedings by comparing the body to a Cabinet rather than a legislature: Cabinet proceedings are confidential. Brussels-based correspondents none the less manage to report what is going on by gaining access to officials, diplomats and documents.

On the other hand, this gives all 12 governments and the Commission scope for manipulating the media through "briefings".

The press can piece the picture together by comparing one national briefing with another. But why not simply admit the press to Council meetings, creating the equivalent of the press gallery in Congress or Parliament, and excluding reporters only when sensitive negotiations between the Twelve are at stake?

Part of the answer is a "Catch 22": the Council, the EEC's top body under the Treaty of Rome, would itself have to take the decision to expose its own deliberations to the public — about as likely as a Soviet leader voting himself out of office by holding free elections", in the words of one EEC diplomat.

The alternative — giving the European Parliament greater powers — has the merit that Euro-MPs are elected and accountable. But the European Parliament, despite reforms under the Single Act, has yet to earn the kind of public esteem and confidence which would fit it for this role. There is no immediate prospect of the European Parliament living up to its name and becoming a true legislature for the peoples of Europe.

Meanwhile, the problem of democracy in the EEC becomes more acute. It will grow even more pressing if, as part of the 1992 process, power gravitates still further to Brussels, with the EEC acquiring control over such areas as defence and security, indirect or direct taxation, a common currency and European central bank, and the co-ordination of police forces against crime and terrorism in a frontier-free Europe.

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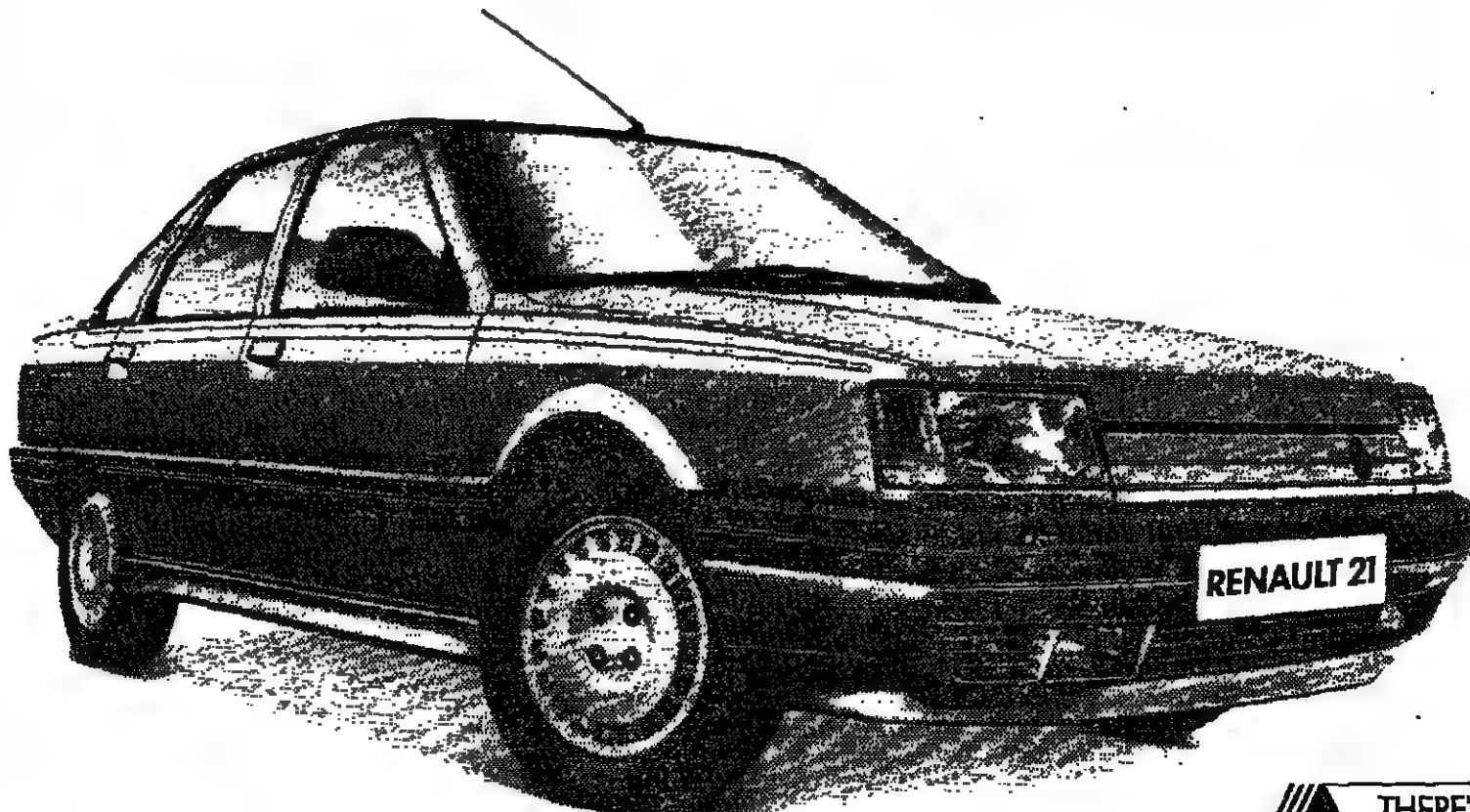
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Imagine a final examination in which you must sit in front of a row of academics who fire questions for half an afternoon on every aspect of your university degree course. The exam is open to the public — your friends and anyone seeking free entertainment can come and hear your fumbling replies. This is not merely a viva voce to decide your grade but is the main exam itself — four or more years of study depends literally on a "performance".

This nightmare is standard practice in Italian universities. In France, some subjects offer no choice on the question paper. And in most European countries, except for Britain, thousands of students who begin university courses never finish them as they are weeded out by successively demanding exams.

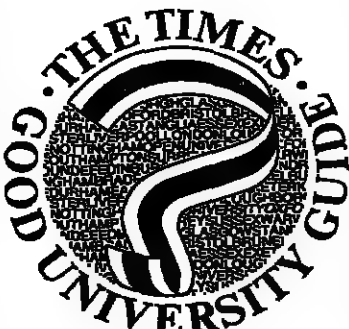
These are some of the insights into Continental academia which students at the University of Kent at Canterbury have picked up through being part of the Erasmus scheme, one of the EEC's most challenging ventures.

More than 850 universities are now involved in Erasmus agreements to exchange students for large parts of their degree courses. What makes Erasmus special is that students do more than simply spend time abroad — they take exams in the foreign university, with no allowances made for language difficulties, and gain a very valuable credit towards their degree in return.

The students receive grants from the Commission to cover travel costs and some academics also receive funding for study

● Thanks to an EEC plan many students are taking a free market approach to education

● What do they think about their new colleagues and adopted campuses?



Part Six: Breaking down the barriers

visits: one day, it is hoped, there will be a network of Euro-dons of top calibre circling the Community on Commission-funded lecture tours.

The Commission aims to have 150,000 students — 5 per cent of the total in the EEC — whizzing around on Erasmus exchanges and picking up "mosaic" degrees.

Beneath this ambition is a Commission plan to break down the resistance of legal, medical and other professional bodies to the idea of harmonized European professional qualifications. Even if that never happens the students now involved are becoming genuinely European in ways that no end of harmonized trade regulations can achieve.

Sometimes a little too European, perhaps, I thought when, courtesy of the Commission, I recently met a supremely confident multilingual gaggle of students in Rheims, which is part of a quadrilateral scheme involving

Middlesex Polytechnic's Business School. They were "the future of Europe", they informed me and other European journalists.

John Reilly, a law don at Kent University who has done much to inspire his own university with enthusiasm for Erasmus, is worried that language teaching is so poor in Britain that few students really stand a chance. But for those who do, the opportunities are worth looking at, and unless we take languages more seriously in British schools, we will ruin our students' hopes of competing.

Students I talked to in Rheims and at Kent were certain that they had acquired what Marcella Missiroli, an Italian student reading English literature at Kent, dubbed "European flair". One Kent student, Stuart Jennings, admits that his year at the Université Jean Moulin in Lyon, studying accountancy, was hard work, and that living in France was expensive.

But the exposure to a different system was invaluable and he now looks at British university life with new eyes. "The French system is very different: only a small proportion of the French students I was with will get their degrees as they will be weeded out by end-of-year exams. The lectures are huge and much more significant to the course, and you do not have the close contact with teachers that you get in England," he told me.

Stephan Honrath, a German student who is in Kent studying economics, agrees that British universities are special: "Here at Kent we have to learn to write essays very quickly. You learn to express concepts concisely. In a German university, you may not write more than four essays in five years."

"The British system is more efficient. You get an overview of a subject in a relatively short time. The disadvantage, though, is that you never spend long on any one topic — that can be a bit unsatisfying."

The European students at Kent are struck by how much more accessible the dons are and they relish the chance of being taught in small groups and seminars. Charles Ennadam, who came to Kent from the Université des Sciences Sociales de Grenoble to finish a law degree, finds English academic life easier: "In France you have to know the stuff really, really well and in the exam you have just one question and spend three hours applying everything you have learnt to the one problem. In England they give you five questions that have to be dealt



We Europeans: students taking part in the EEC Erasmus exchange scheme at Kent University, Canterbury

with quickly and efficiently." But how do the Brits measure up as people? We are less cliquish than the French, though we need some effort to get to know and are perhaps not as warm as the Germans. Derek Clark, who studied in Marburg for a year, found the German students exceptionally welcoming and within days was mucking in in the kitchen of a student flat.

But Stephan Honrath is flabbergasted by the English student's idea of having fun. "At Christmas the Kent students organize a grand ball — black tie, long gowns and everything," he said in wonderment. "and £18 a ticket!" The typical German student's party wear is more in the jeans and T-shirt bracket — but Stephan now has a standing invitation to come to the next

someone will lend him a dinner jacket. Vive la difference!

Sarah Thompson

TOMORROW

Medical schools: cases for treatment?

KENT to LIVERPOOL

ERRATUM

● Today is the start of the second week of the competition which gives you the chance to win one of Cambridge Computer's Z88 portable personal computers every day.
● All you have to do is spot the deliberate mistake hidden in the daily question, and tell us the correct version.
● One question will appear each day during the two remaining weeks of the Good University Guide. There are 15 Z88 computers to be won.

There is a deliberate error in the following statement. Spot the mistake and write the correct version:

The 20th anniversary of the first landing by men on the moon will be on July 16 next year. The Apollo 11 astronauts were Neil Armstrong, Edwin Aldrin and Michael Collins.

Write your answer in the coupon below and send it to ERRATUM Day 1, 16 Whitelands Street, London EC8 2NG. Each day is a separate contest and requires a separate envelope. You must not send all your entries in one envelope.

ERRATUM

Answer: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____

The closing date for all entries is last post on Friday, June 24, 1988. A prize of a Z88 personal portable computer will be awarded to the first correct entry opened for each day's question. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The winner will be announced in The Times on Friday, July 1.

A to Z

Student views are taken either from the Alternative Prospectuses or Student Union spokesmen.

KENT

Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NZ (0227 764000)

Inquiries: Senior Assistant Registrar

Location: Stands in 300 acres overlooking the historic city.

History: Founded 1563. Darwin, the last of four colleges, opened 1970.

Undergraduates: 3,690. (Male/Female ratio 5:4).

Main areas of study: English and American Literature, Law, Electronic Engineering. Among

most popular courses are Accounting, Law, English, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Electronics and Computing.

Length of degree course: three or four years, depending on subject.

Special features: Kent does not have a traditional departmental system. The first year course is general and changing subjects is relatively easy.

There is a strong personal tutor system. Kent offers unique courses in African and Caribbean Studies and Biomedical Electronics.

Social life: All students are allocated to one of four colleges on campus. Most first-years are guaranteed a room.

The university also has 157 purpose-built houses. Accommodation in Canterbury is hard to find and many second and third years live out in Whitelands or Herne Bay. Social, cultural and sporting life tends to centre around each college. The

Guibankian Theatre attracts visiting professional companies. Sports Centre includes a sports injuries clinic and coaching to international standard.

Student view: "The campus is essentially a self-contained village overlooking the cathedral city. At weekends the campus becomes a bit of a ghost town as hordes of students visit home and friends. Dabbling in subjects outside your own discipline forces an academic tunnel vision."

Famous graduates: Kazuo Ishiguro.

Open days: Run on a subject basis. June 24 (Sciences), September 26 (History). Contact Registry for further details.

LAMPETER

St David's University College, Lampeter, Dyfed SA48 7ED (0570 422351)

Inquiries: Deputy Registrar.

Location: Smallest university in Western Europe, sited in market town of Lampeter.

History: Founded in 1822. It merged with the University of Wales in 1971.

Undergraduates: 750 (M/F 1:1).

Main areas of study: English, History, Geography, Theology and Religious Studies. Popular courses include Philosophy, Archaeology, Ancient History, and Religious Studies. Length of degree course: three or four years depending on subject.

Special features: Only the Humanities taught here. Students take three subjects in their first year and can choose from a range including Swed-

ish, Welsh, Philosophy and Archaeology. Lampeter operates an exchange scheme with the Canadian university.

Social life: All first years and most second and third year students are allocated college rooms. The SU operates a bilingual policy in this essentially Welsh-speaking area. A close-knit community because of its size and remote setting. The College Arts Hall attracts companies like the Welsh National Opera and there is an active music club.

Student view: "We are a rather small University College in the middle of rural Wales. If you live out of town it is advisable to have your own transport. Although you might think a place as small as Lampeter would have practically no social life, apart from counting sheep, there is rarely a night without some kind of event."

Famous graduates: Sue Shipman.

Open days: Applicants are invited to new entrants conferences during Christmas and Easter vacations.

LANCASTER

University House, Lancaster LA1 4YW (0524 65201)

Inquiries: Director of Admissions.

Location: Attractive 250-acre 1950s campus set close to the sea and the Lake District.

History: Founded in 1964.

Undergraduates: 4,070 (M/F 1:1).

Major areas of study: Largest fields English, Economics and History. Most popular courses

Management Sciences (especially Accounting, Finance and Marketing). Law and Psychology. Length of degree course: three or four years depending on subject.

Special features: All students take three subjects during their first year, then specialize. Facilities for students to organize their own studies and to change course if necessary.

Social life: Nearly all first years live on campus in one of the eight colleges as do the majority of first year students. Social, recreational and much academic activity centres around the colleges with JCRs as the focus of social life. The colleges hold regular discos and the SU has a nightclub in town.

Multi-purpose sports centre has swimming pool, 12 squash courts, a dance studio, sauna and solarium.

Student view: "The university has a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, set in beautiful surroundings with a good social life. The college residences are very in standard but are mainly good and the degree scheme is flexible."

Famous graduates: Robert Fisk, Linda Lewis (TV reporter), Gary Waller MP.

Open days: None this summer.

LEEDS

Leeds LS2 9JT (0532 333993).

Inquiries: Assistant Registrar.

Location: One of Britain's largest civic universities. Leeds is situated on a 140-acre site just north of the city centre. Victorian architecture blended with glass and concrete.

History: Founded as the Yorkshire College of Science in 1874.

Undergraduates: 8,825 (M/F 5:4).

Main areas of study: English, Medicine, Business and Economic Studies. Among the most popular courses are Fine Arts, Psychology, Economics and Social History. Law. Length of degree course: between three and five years depending on subject.

Special features: One of the major university libraries in the country with some two million books and periodicals and a computerized book circulation system.

Social life: All first year students can be accommodated in halls of residence either on campus, or a few miles away. There are also university flats within walking distance of the campus. The SU organizes a wide range of entertainments and welfare services — a free minibus service for women students, for example. There is also a new sports hall.

Student view: "It is all too easy to dismiss Leeds campus as much too big. Visiting sixth formers often say 'I'd get lost'. Given a couple of weeks the campus shrinks to an easily manageable size and offers better facilities than many other smaller campuses."

Famous graduates: Jack Straw MP, Nicholas Witchell.

Open day: July 6.

LEICESTER

University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH (0533 522295)

Inquiries: Admissions officer.

Location: One mile south of the city centre, the campus is small, compact and surrounded by fields. Georgian and award-winning modern architecture.

History: Founded in 1818.

Undergraduates: 3,900 (M/F 5:4).

Main areas of study: Law, Medicine, Engineering, Biological Sciences. The four most popular courses are Psychology, Geography, History of Art, Law. Length of degree course: three to four years, five for medicine.

Special features: Leicester offers an impressive range of subjects which means that most students opt for combined or joint honours courses. It has a comprehensive library.

Social life: All new entrants are offered university accommodation in Halls of Residence or student houses. A pleasant middle-of-the-road university with good sports facilities, a fine athletics track and a strong history of debating. There is a resident chamber music group and an active theatre workshop.

Student view: "It should be noted that Leicester offers the widest range of courses outside of Oxford and Cambridge. Despite its reputation, there is life, humour, and endless activity in the city, with many being pumped into the development of the leisure and tourism industry."

Famous graduates: Jon Snow, Phil Redmond (Grange Hill), Willy Russell.

Open days: Annually in May or by arrangement.

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Tomorrow: London

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Foresters in the United States are worried about the long-term decline of red spruce woodlands. But to link this with the direct effects of acid rain may be premature, according to new research.

While Walter Sharde and Kevin Smith of the US Department of Agriculture say in the May 20 issue of Science that evidence for a direct causal link between the general malaise of spruce forests and industrial sulphur and nitrogen-acid emissions is "weak", they also say that soil acidity may have an impact, if less direct, part to play because it releases toxic amounts of aluminium.

Even though the red spruce has no economic importance, it is a favourite subject for research because it is particularly sensitive to acid pollution and serves a useful model for what might happen to other trees such as the Norway spruce, the sitka spruce, the Scotch pine and the silver fir.

Just as miners once used canaries to warn of impending disaster, foresters rely on the red spruce for information about how trees are damaged by pollution.

The new research demonstrates how aluminium in acid soils blocks the entry of essential calcium into tree roots. In acid soils, the aluminium leaches out into the ground-water. Once in the water, it causes a film around the microscopic hairs on the roots of trees, thereby blocking the passage of calcium through the root walls and into the trees. High concentrations of soluble aluminium will kill the roots directly, but any concentration that exceeds the



PAUL BRYANT

concentration of calcium in the soil can deny calcium to the tree.

Trees need regular doses of calcium to build cell walls and woody tissue. In their survey of red spruce woodlands in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, Sharde and Smith found that red spruce calcium-deficient trees by a host of symptoms. The trees grow more slowly than their healthy neighbours, are more susceptible to attack by fungi and insects, and are rather spindly.

Because the conducting vessels in the trunks, which transport water and nutrients, do not develop properly without calcium, many trees outgrow their strength, their crowns becoming starved of nutrients and dying off. This is the most characteristic feature of the so-called Calcium Deficiency Syndrome when trees are examined from the air.

Researchers at the Institute of Terrestrial Ecology in Edinburgh are also interested in the red spruce as a model for

the effects of acid pollution. In common with American researchers, they suspect that acid pollution is just one factor hastening the demise of a species already in decline.

The red spruce normally grows at moderately high altitudes where forests are often blanketed by mists and low clouds. Research in Edinburgh shows that high concentrations of acid in clouds diminish the ability of the red spruce to withstand frosts.

The frost sensitivity of the red spruce is accentuated by previous acid damage, particularly in the crucial hardening-off period when a tree becomes acclimatised to early winter frosts. The Edinburgh group hopes to test this effect on the Norway spruce next year.

The special problems of the red spruce could be related to genetics. The red spruce has an unusual distribution, growing in small clumps and patches along the line of the Appalachians from Canada and Maine down to the Carolinas. This pattern has all the hallmarks of a once widespread species forced into a specialized niche by harder competitor-species.

Unlike the Norway spruce, whose enormous genetic variability forestry researchers describe as "notorious", the red spruce displays a remarkable genetic uniformity. This is odd in view of the patchy distribution of the red spruce, which might be expected to leave each population with its own genetic idiosyncrasies. The genetic uniformity of the red spruce may be a clue to its environmental susceptibility.

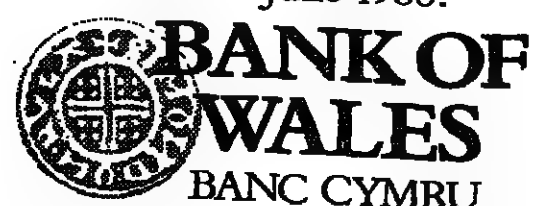
Henry Gee

© Nature-The Times-News Service, 1988

The Concise Crossword has now moved to the Information Page — page 22

BANK OF WALES BASE RATE

Bank of Wales announces that its Base Rate has been increased from 7.5% to 8% with effect from 1st June 1988.



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worldwide.*

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national tradition of research and
development second to none.*

*But then, of course, you always
have been.*

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TIMES DIARY

CLEMENT FREUD

The flight departed from Gatwick at 6am, the man in my bucket shop told me. As the plane took off, the Algarve coast less than a first-class single London-Glasgow by British Rail, I thanked him cordially and checked in two hours before take-off, as the charter company said I must. This had not been my original plan: I was going to catch the 4am train from Victoria but the minicab driver whom I had summoned for 3.30 arrived early, said Gatwick was only £20 further than Victoria and if he drove me all the way I would not get mugged on the train. We made it by 3.55 am. Two and a half hours at the airport prior to take-off then two and a quarter hours in the air.

It is said that the Englishman's dream holiday is Brighton or Blackpool or Skegness, with sunshine, like sunshine and Radio 4, make do with sunshine and the World Service, just about manage on sunshine and newspapers. Something has happened to the shortwave radio which now confines listening to the output of Albania (I think it is Albania) and you do not get London papers in the Algarve until the day after publication.

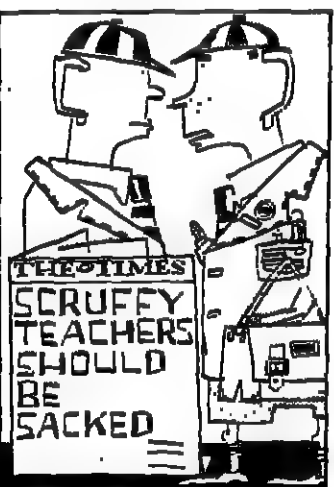
Each morning starting at 8.30am flights arrive at Faro from Heathrow, Gatwick, Luton, Stansted, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle etc. Each day thousands of UK holidaymakers leave tonnes of newspaper on their planes and each day 100,000 temporary or permanent expatriates have to make do with the previous day's papers giving news of what went on the day before that. Much is written about what to bring back from a vacation to this or that country. When will people be told to take newspapers abroad and give them to the last holiday intake... failing that at least to take note of the Test match score and tell anxious cricket fans. Not surprisingly, Radio Albania is totally silent on the subject.

Norm and Sandra run a bar in a village west of Faro. Norm and Sandra are their real names; go almost anywhere in the Algarve and Norm and Sandra are there, running a bar. They came out on holiday, liked the weather and the people and the exchange rate... and bought or rented the premises from some Norm and Sandra who were packing it in.

They have a friend called Keith who helps out behind the bar when they want an evening off, a local Maria who comes and does the cleaning, and with beer wholesaling at less than 20p a pint they make a steady 100 per cent profit on drink - though you have to sell an awful lot of beer before that profit amounts to serious money.

Then one night Sandra nudges Norm and says "How about putting up the price of beer by 10 escudos? It will still be less than what they pay in the UK." And Norm says "Good thinking, Sandra." Up goes the price, away go the Portuguese to some other bar - most houses in the Algarve appear to be bars - and the Brits on holiday don't like places where all they can see are other Brits on holiday; except Norm and Sandra, enter Sandra and Norm. If petrol were cheaper you could enjoy a free and very alcoholic life on the south coast of Portugal simply attending Norm and Sandra moving-in and moving-out parties.

BARRY FANTONI



"Poor old Smithies - he's spent a lifetime cultivating his barnyard chemistry master look."

I went on Friday to the fish market in my local town and found a large, good-looking salmon; took him home, removed head and tail and gut, split him down the back, removed his main bone and went at subsidiary bones with pinners. Then I carved one of the clean fillets into long thin slices and put them upon plates, dressing the raw salmon with a sprinkling of coarse salt, some sprigs of dill and a few drops of vodka before weighing down the treated fish with the next plate. I put the stack of five plates (four portions) to mature overnight in a cool corner of the kitchen.

Maria who tends my house here - as do people of her name tend all Algarvian houses - had the plates washed and stacked before I came down to breakfast and said what I took to be Portuguese for "So you lot didn't go a bundle on the raw fish?"

The Portuguese telephone service is less than very efficient. If you want to make a call to Britain, stick to ringing at unsociable hours and allow for half a dozen attempts - which will yield you on average three wrong numbers and the number you have dialled, in accordance with God's law this will be engaged, necessitating another six calls.

There is a waiting list of several years for telephones and one of the big selling points in Algarve property advertisements is that "this house has a phone". Sadly one cannot get a listing in the directory unless one gets a new telephone, which entails giving up the existing equipment and going on the waiting list.

If you find someone's name in the directory - the whole southern region of the country takes up only 427 pages - it means that they are very old or have changed their name to that of the previous subscriber. This information is largely irrelevant because the lines are so beset by crackle, static and other people's conversations hogging the atmosphere like the Cheshire cat smile that the phone is for short, sharp, urgent messages only. Chastine would never catch on in the land of our oldest ally.

"The Cold War is over" - that cliché reverberated on the airwaves and found its way into countless editorials on the conclusion of last week's Moscow summit. The historical accuracy of the assertion was matched by the intellectual acuity of the American journalists who constantly shouted at Mr Reagan: "Do you still think of Russia as the evil empire?" Both reactions reflected the fact that the summit was short on substance but long on symbolism. And symbolism is easier to manipulate, to exaggerate, and even to distort.

The hard facts, however, are less sensational but, unfortunately, more enduring. The Cold War is not over, and the empire is still evil. Mr Reagan, had he been better coached, could have responded to the badgering by saying that the Russian people are not evil but that imperial power has been and is and even in the Soviet Union many would have understood him and agreed with him. Instead, placed on the defensive and determined not to offend his hosts, he contributed to the impression that the past is truly past.

Alas, it is not so. The Cold War continues. The clash of philosophy and of geostrategy has not been terminated. The issues that precipitated the post-World War II collision have not been resolved. The growing un-

rest in Eastern Europe against the regimes imposed by Stalin is but one manifestation of the unresolved past. And new threats of rivalry and conflict have since opened in the Middle East/Gulf region and increasingly in Central America.

The summit, however, did underline two important changes in the character of that continuing Cold War - and they deserve serious comment. The first is that the West is now on the offensive ideologically and even politically. The cause of human rights, first raised high by President Carter, has put the Soviet leaders on the defensive, and they have been forced gradually and grudgingly to make concessions. Moreover, their own need to reform the Stalinist system creates additional openings for those who seek more freedom, and Mr Reagan was skilful in dramatizing the centrality of freedom in our age by his actions and words.

The meeting with the oppositionists and political victims was truly significant. It communica-

ted to countless others that they are no longer alone and that even the Soviet regime no longer dares to crush them. The comments on religion will doubtless echo within a Soviet Union increasingly aware that communism has turned the country into a spiritual wasteland. Dissent and religion have gained additional respectability - and that, too, puts the official ideology on the defensive.

For the past 40 years or so, communism seemed to be on the offensive. Today it is receding even within the sphere of its power. All the reforms and changes being discussed and occasionally implemented testify to the failure of the communist system, to its inefficiency, and to its basic misunderstanding of the impulses that guide human conduct. The result is a pervasive loss of optimism.

The themes of the summit, even if Mr Reagan was drawn into oversimplifying the Soviet reality and inadvertently contributing to an overly benign view

of it - were far more compatible with Western notions than with the dogmas that have been institutionalized over the last 70 years of the Soviet experience.

The summit's second change in the character of the Cold War pertains to military stability. Fortunately, Mr Reagan did accept the advice of those who, just prior to Moscow, had urged him not to sign jointly with Mr Gorbachev any grandiose declarations or even a so-called provisional framework agreement on Start, since a formal signature would contribute to the mistaken impression that unresolved problems have somehow been solved. None the less, Mr Reagan's comments about nuclear weapons, eagerly seized upon by Gorbachev, have contributed to the further undermining of nuclear deterrence as the basis for military stability in the Cold War.

That war has remained cold in large part because of nuclear deterrence, and one is entitled to wonder whether the moment is ripe for the dismantling of that

proven barrier to a more direct conflict. Denouncing nuclear weapons may be a popular sport, but in the absence of a grand political accommodation the effect is to make a conventional war more feasible.

Moreover, it would be better if such talk was more directly linked to evident and concrete changes in Soviet military dispositions and budgeting. So far, for all the talk about changed priorities, Soviet defence spending remains extraordinarily high. It is at least 20 per cent of the Soviet GNP - and I was struck that in a recent interview with me, published in the Soviet press, the Soviet side did not contest my use of that estimate. It would surely be in keeping with the present atmosphere and consistent with Mr Gorbachev's emphasis on nuclear disarmament if that percentage were to be cut by at least a half.

The festival of feigned friendship should, therefore, not make us lose sight of two fundamental realities: ideologically, democracy and the values traditionally

associated with the West are prevailing and the historical momentum has turned decisively against communism; but the Soviet Union remains a powerful military state - indeed, it is in fact a one-dimensional world power in that respect - and the glare of world publicity should increasingly focus on the disproportionate and potentially dangerous scale of the Soviet military effort.

With the Soviet ideology discredited, and with the Soviet system an admitted failure, it is that military effort that poses the greatest threat to international stability. It follows, therefore, that any major extension of credits and any major Western investments in Soviet perestroika should await truly significant cuts in Soviet military spending. Western arms control proposals should also have that goal in mind and they should specifically aim at major reductions in the disproportionately large Soviet conventional forces, especially tanks.

The progressive elimination of the Soviet military threat, in the wake of the fading of the Soviet ideological challenge, pointing toward the gradual and peaceful dismantling of the Soviet empire, could then justify some of today's prematurely hopeful conclusions.

The author was National Security Adviser to President Carter.

Zbigniew Brzezinski warns against summit over-optimism

First cracks in the ice

Bernard Levin

Foul deeds of desecration

There seems no doubt that anything which is possible for a human being to do will sooner or later be done; at the very least it will be seriously contemplated. No less stark a rule could cover the episode of the Maori head. For those who have not been following the story, I offer a brief summary.

A woman in this country had in her possession - acquired when or how I do not know, though lawfully - a preserved human head. It was the head of a Maori warrior, and experts assigned it to the early 19th century; presumably, it was the custom to make such trophies of war, though whether it was the victorious side who treated their enemies thus, or the losing side who mourned in this fashion their fallen comrades, is not clear.

Anyway, the woman in our story apparently saw no difference between a human head and an inlaid escutcheon, and sent the object to Bonham's, the auctioneers, to sell for her. Bonham's, for their part, made no demur, and prepared to offer one human head, in good condition, with tattoo, to the highest bidder at a forthcoming sale.

Autres temps, autres mœurs; many a ritual once thought perfectly normal has come to seem abhorrent, from cannibalism to burning witches. The Maoris today are peaceful people, and their grievances, which I believe are real, are heard in Parliament, newspapers and courts of law, rather than on the battlefield; nor have I heard that even homicide among them is followed by any such ancient and macabre ritual.

And yet there is in England a woman and a firm of auctioneers who between them are unable to see that they might be doing anything odd by trading in human heads. Moreover, when the story broke, it transpired that these relics are widely admired collector's pieces, and good specimens can fetch large sums; the one under discussion was likely to go for something like £5,000. Indeed, another firm of auctioneers have expressed genuine indignation at the fact that

the fuss has obliged them to postpone a sale including a substantial collection of these heads.

For the moment, everything is on hold; legal action from New Zealand has frozen bids until a decision on the ultimate ownership can be made. On the legal proceedings I naturally make no comment; it is the moral questions involved that interest me. Maori leaders have called the impending sale a "degrading and deeply offensive desecration", and that strikes me as scoring very high marks for both succinctness and strict accuracy.

Let me ask the seller and the auctioneer (and those who were thinking of making a bid) a question so offensive that it might penetrate even hides which at present seem thick enough to resist a direct hit by a hate-seeking nuclear missile. Among the horrors of Nazism and the Final Solution, there are authenticated instances of flayed Jewish skin being made into lampshades. Now suppose such a thing had come, without any law being broken, into the seller's possession, and she, quite within her rights, asked Bonham's to sell it for what it would fetch, would the parties to the transaction (seller, auctioneer, buyer) feel a sense of unease, attributable after much investigation to the realization that what they were doing was wrong?

Obviously, if the answer is "no", I have nothing more to say to them, which would cut this interesting discussion short; so let us assume that it is "yes". The next question, then, must be obvious: what's the difference?

It is that the Maori died longer ago than the Jew? That cannot be the answer; profaning the dead has no statute of limitations, and if it is wrong to treat as commerce a body violently killed in this century, it can hardly be right to take the opposite view of one done to death in the last.

Can the differing nature of the two deaths establish a defence, so that a body found on a battlefield is less worthy of respect than one found in a gas-chamber? I can't see why. Both were, after all, human beings cut off before their time, and in any

case it is not how they died that poses the hard question, but what is to be done with what remains; as far as I am concerned, the principle is the same if the dead man died of measles, or even old age.

Or is it that the Maori died in an unfathomable tribal quarrel on the other side of the world, but the Jew was killed in civilized Europe? But since when did morality depend on geography? (I had better stop this catechism before somebody announces that I am quite right, that there is indeed no difference between the two dreadful souvenirs, and that it is therefore as fully acceptable to buy or sell the lampshade as the head.)

We live, God knows, in a strange and portentous time; I sometimes suspect that those who assert that the world is coming to an end know more than we think, and certainly there is evidence to support such a view. Violence has always been endemic in human societies, but certain kinds of it, wholly independent of gain or any other rational motive, now seem more prevalent than ever. The sniffing of cocaine is, in some circles, considered not just enjoyable, let alone dangerous, but smart, amusing, elegant. Tradition is a joke, the very past a junkyard. As Chesterton sang, "They twisted even decent sin to shapes not to be named".

Well, they have given it an extra twist now. Let us examine the nature of it more closely. If a human head is to you a toy, an ornament or another acquisition for your cabinet de voyeur, it does not mean that you are wicked, but it does mean that

there is something missing in your make-up. I think I know what the missing element is, and there is a curiously recondite yet useful test for defining it.

The touchstone will be found in the 22nd and 24th books of the *Iliad*. Achilles, having refused to take any further part in the war, is roused to fury and to battle by the death of his friend Patroclus at the hands of Hector. Achilles goes forth to face the victorious Trojan, and kills him. Up to that point there is nothing special for a reader to feel; this is a war, after all, and people get killed in wars. But mark the sequel. Achilles ties the body of Hector, by the heels, to his chariot, and drags the noble corpse round the walls of Troy.

There is your test. If you can read the passage without feeling a profound pity and revulsion, you could buy or sell a tattooed Maori warrior's head; if not, you couldn't. Go on to the sequel, in which Priam begs the mangled body of his son, so that he can bury it with dignity and the proper rites; if the boon granted and the obsequies held, you feel a deep sense of fitness and resolution in the story (though Hector, after all, is still dead, and his father still heartbroken), then you have in you that precious element which those who feel nothing as Hector is laid in earth do not have.

Imagination is the missing ingredient. That Maori head once spoke, in a strange tongue, no doubt, but spoke. It kissed its wife; it cursed its enemies; it got wet in the rain; it died, and was severed from its shoulders. The body below the head was just as real; take its hand and feel the warmth of a living being. Imagination stirs, does it not?

It stirs enough to ask questions: did he go fearfully into battle, that warrior, or did he scorn such feelings? Was he a seasoned veteran, or a raw recruit? You think these questions are pointless and childish? Then you are probably an auctioneer at Bonham's, or the owner of the controversial lot. Homer knew better.

It is imagination that is dying out of the world; the people in those categories I listed a few paragraphs back are devoid of it, and the solipsism they practise is their epitaph. But the danger is that it might be ours, too. For imagination informs every culture; it is the blood of art, the mark of maturity, the guide-dog of ethics, the cornerstone of religion. (For the thousandth time: I am not a Christian. But I would regard myself as much less than fully human if I were not moved to the innermost chambers of my heart by the thought of the Eucharist, and it is imagination that provokes the thought.) If imagination dies, it will make the world a desert. But if it comes riding back in arms to claim its rightful kingdom, we shall hear no more of the selling and buying of human heads.



Commentary • ROBIN OAKLEY

Swinging public opinion

A Tory Home Secretary who goes to a party conference without a package of tough-sounding law and order measures can expect to be savaged. The audience wants the return of hanging. The Home Secretary cannot deliver and so must offer excuses. This week's Commons debate on capital punishment is part of that buying-off process. It will change nothing. The Commons has discussed the matter 16 times in 32 years, with the abolitionists firmly in the ascendancy. Lately, MPs have voted against the death penalty by successive majorities of 152, 129, 119, 162, 143 and 112. July 1983 saw the majority against fall to 116 for terrorist murders and 81 for the murder of police officers and rise to 175 for murder in furtherance of theft.

Those who seek restoration argue that majorities against are falling. (For terrorist murders, figures were 152 against in 1974, 129 in 1975, and 116 in 1983.) They say that the margin last time would have been lower if the vote had not involved putting the onus on a jury to declare that a murder was sufficiently "evil" to require capital punishment.

Conservatives then split 222-127 in favour of restoring the death penalty with Labour all against. A more right-wing intake at the general election should reduce the number of Tory abolitionists, but no more. Before the passion, however, some facts.

and prison officers is a major motivation in these debates. The last murder of a mainland prison officer on duty was in 1965, which does not suggest a greater tendency to murder by prisoners with nothing to lose. As for the police, those in favour of the death penalty argue that 11 were killed in 17 years before abolition and 26 in the 17 years following. Those against say the number of police murdered has remained virtually constant since 1957 at between nought and two a year.

The death penalty enthusiasts argue that the number of murders generally in the five years before abolition averaged 290 compared with 390 in the five years to 1983. But Douglas Hurd told MPs last year that the number of homicides per 100,000 of the population reached its peak of 1.96 in the 1960s and has declined since to 1.33. Murders rose sharply in some years when the death penalty existed and fell sharply in some years since it was abolished. There is no consistency.

Death penalty enthusiasts such as Sir Rhodes Boyson argue that 57 people have died since abolition because convicted murderers killed a second time on release. But of the 134 convicted murderers in 1955, for example, only nine were executed. Even in capital punishment days many convicted killers came out of prison.

Between 1975 and 1983, 73 per cent of murders were committed not by habitual crim-

inals but within the family, half of them during a quarrel. Only 10 per cent of murders are committed in pursuit of other crime, fewer than ten years ago.

For many there are at least nine good reasons for not restoring the death penalty: Martin Goodwin, Patrick Meehan, Patrick Murphy, Geoffrey Mycock, Cooper and McMahon, John Peerce, Albert Taylor and Mervyn Russell. All had murder convictions quashed or their sentences cancelled. Had they been hanged, the mistakes could not have been corrected.

But those of us with moral objections to the death penalty would have to reconsider if deterrence could be proved. What is wrong with these debates is that they take place amid a morass of inconclusive statistics; they seek to reduce something complex to a simple solution that does not exist and they represent a diversion from the business of tackling the crimes which affect most people.

Of the 3.8 million offences in Britain in 1986, 3 per cent involved violence and only 7 per cent of those cases endangered life. Just 0.2 per cent of crimes involved a threat to life. One Home Secretary after another confesses that there is no conclusive difference in crime figures between countries that retain the death penalty and those which have abolished it. Murder appears to have gone up less than crime in general. But so many of the figures are fuzzy, Violence against the person fell

partly because abortion was removed from that category. Many potential murder victims are now saved by improved medical skills. More crime is recorded.

How much will conviction rates fall if the death penalty is reintroduced? How do you measure the deterrence of higher penalties, especially now that a life sentence in some cases means at least 20 years?

The would-be restorers have to tell us what they would do about majority verdicts by juries, introduced since abolition. Would not a Home Secretary have to relieve every murderer so convicted? And what about Northern Ireland, where terrorist murderers are convicted without a jury?

Hanging debates in the Commons are impressive political theatre. The danger is that they emphasize more than any other issue the distance between MPs and the public, which believes the death penalty deters not only murderers but many other violent criminals.

If the public is wrong, it must be shown to be wrong and convinced of it. That requires, surely, a dispassionate and painstaking examination of the statistics by the Home Affairs Select Committee. And it means that MPs who oppose capital punishment have got to go out and preach the case against it and not just save their consciences with a single vote, hoping that electors will have forgotten it by the next election.

JUNE 6 ON THIS DAY 1820

HER MAJESTY'S ARRIVAL IN ENGLAND

Dover, Monday 2 o'clock pm... the people of Dover... were already flocking in vast numbers, and all dressed as if for a fête, in order to view the disembarkation of their Queen. The packet at about a quarter before one came close into the roads, but on account of the tide could not enter the harbour. Her Majesty... determined to go to shore in an open boat, though the swell of the water was so considerable as to make it difficult to descend the ship's side. At length, however, her Majesty and suite were safely placed in the boat, which rapidly approached the shore, amidst the most enthusiastic cheering from the countless multitude on the beach, the heights, and all the avenues leading to the principal hotel.

At one o'clock her Majesty put her foot on British ground: the royal salute began to fire, and an universal shout of congratulation welcomed her arrival. For a few moments her countenance and manner bespoke considerable agitation... but she soon recovered herself, and with a firm step, a composed manner, and a smiling but steady countenance,

walked slowly along the crowded ranks of the principal inhabitants... She appeared in good health, her blue eyes shining with peculiar lustre, but her cheeks had the appearance of long intimacy with care and anxiety. She is not so much embowed as formerly, and her manner and figure seemed perfectly befitting her exalted station. She was dressed with great elegance.

As she moved along, the crowd gathered so fast, and pressed so closely around her, that she was compelled to take refuge in the York Hotel. Mr Wright, of the Ship Hotel, seeing that it would be impossible for her Majesty to reach his house on foot, immediately despatched a handsome open carriage to the York Hotel. Her Majesty, Lady Hamilton, and Alderman Wood ascended the carriage: the populace removed the horses and drew it themselves. The head of a long procession her Majesty, and two large flags, bearing the insignia of the principal tradesmen. A guard of honour was placed at the door of the hotel, but the people did not seem to relish their appearance, and the Queen observing to Alderman Wood that their presence appeared rather to produce an unpleasant and angry feeling, the worthy Alderman suggested the propriety of their going away. After playing "God save the King" the soldiers retired, and the populace seemed highly delighted. Her Majesty bowed several times with great grace and sweetness of manner to the happy assemblage. She then lay down to rest after the harassing fatigues of body and mind which she had undergone...

Science Report will now appear on the Spectrum page - today page 12



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LIBERALS AND DEMOCRATS

The choice the Social and Liberal Democrats have to make in voting for a leader to launch their more or less new party is between a safe pair of hands and what is vulgarly called charisma, which in political terms means eye-catching star quality. Mr Alan Beith offers the first, Mr Paddy Ashdown the second.

In terms of policy there is nothing as yet to choose between them. Here is no left-right quarrel comparable with the contest between Mr Neil Kinnock and Mr Tony Benn in the Labour Party. The choice is essentially one of personality. It is also, however, a choice between the known and the relatively unknown. Mr Beith has been the Liberal chief whip and an MP for 15 years; Mr Ashdown entered parliament only in 1983.

Yet policy does come into it. Whoever becomes the Democrats' leader will have a profound influence in the making of policy and the striking of the political attitudes by which the electorate will make its judgements. Moreover, subsumed in the contest are the remnants of the former competition for influence between the Liberal Party element and the old SDP.

Mr Beith stands very much for the apostolic succession of the old Liberal tradition. His expressed regret at the adoption of the short trade description "Democrats" and his wish, even at this stage, to rescue the word Liberal for the party's short title, symbolize his attitude. He is making a special appeal to the strand of Liberal grassroots opinion traditionally represented by the Association of Liberal Councillors which used to cause Mr David Steel so much trouble.

Mr Ashdown, on the other hand, does not conceal his dislike of harking back. He is quite happy with the description Democrats, emphasising that since this is a new party looking to the future it naturally has a new description.

If Mr Beith, a man of scholarly background, stands for stability, Mr Ashdown, the former commando, offers exploration and, seeming to be more disengaged from the Liberal past, is probably more attractive to the mergerist Social Democratic element from which no candidate is expected. The former SDP leader, Mr Robert MacLennan is not expected to stand and court almost certain disaster.

Mr Ashdown emphasizes the future with the apparent implication that Mr Beith and the party as it now is are less geared up to meet it than he is himself. Mr Beith contests this. The party, he says, is already addressing the future in its policy researches. But by looking to the future Mr Ashdown is clearly setting himself apart from the old Liberal obsession with committees seeking new policies. He is rather embarking on a political adventure in search of

something new to draw the electorate from the two big parties. It is an approach for which there is much to be said. There is a bedrock position of something around 10 per cent for any third party in British politics. In the recent local elections the Democrats held up comparatively well bearing in mind the damage done to them by the merger strife. But to become a real competitor for a share of power at a general election two conditions have to be fulfilled.

First, there must be deep discontent with the existing government. It is not too hard to envisage that possibility with a Tory government seeking a fourth term and suffering from the aftermath of its community charge and social services difficulties. But for a third party advance there needs also to be a public sense that the main opposition party is unacceptable for government. It is an open question whether Mr Kinnock will win good opinions by subduing the left and putting his party in closer touch with political reality or lose it by unleashing internecine conflict.

In the right circumstances, however, the advantages of a third party leader who can communicate effectively are striking. Lord Grimond, Mr Jeremy Thorpe and Mr Steel in turn all led the Liberals to political peaks, though not to a breakthrough, by their skill as communicators. A breakthrough for the Democrats will also need political acumen and the avoidance of giving hostages to fortune.

Mr Beith would be unlikely to do that. He is an experienced, shrewd and cautious politician. Yet the allegedly significant part he played in producing the "dead parrot" merger document with which Mr Steel and Mr MacLennan nearly wrecked merger is perhaps an adverse comment on his judgement. It may possibly also be taken as a comment on him that he did not more quickly condemn the anonymous personal attack on Mr Ashdown which issued from his camp at the outset of the campaign.

Mr Ashdown is not likely to fudge decisions or indulge in face-saving compromises. But his decisiveness could be a source of confusion as it was when he first appeared to opt for one position on defence and then for another. Rashness is also demonstrated by his over-ready talk at this stage of replacing Labour and being uninterested in coalition. That is not the talk of current political reality.

Still, he is the risk-taker's choice and nothing much is achieved in politics without risk. The new party does not have an easy decision. It could do with a leader who amalgamates the better qualities of both men. Political instincts rather than rational judgement will probably determine who is to be not only the leader of the new party, but in a real sense also its creator.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT

The courts have been making wide use of community service orders as an alternative to custodial sentences, but the Home Office clearly feels that CSOs are still seen by magistrates and the public at large as the soft option. That is a subjective judgement but no government — particularly not this one — wants to be regarded as soft on crime.

So there is good political logic behind the measures set out last week by the Home Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, for stiffening the punitive impact of community service orders. The new proposals would require each offender to perform at least 21 hours of manual labour. This demand alone would appease the instinct which says that hard work is good for the soul. (In addition to this basic requirement the Home Office will also be considering exactly what it is that constitutes "hard work" for offenders for whom the prospect of physical labour is not at all daunting.) It is appropriate, too, that the punishment should more closely fit the crime. There is no good reason why those convicted of vandalism should not be required to clear up after them; or why those responsible for graffiti should not be made to remove it.

The chief virtue of the community service order when it was introduced in 1973 was that it brought back to British penal policy the principle of reparation: the idea that by his crime the offender automatically incurred a debt to society as a whole — which he had a duty to repay. He had done something negative

to the common good; and he was to be made to do something positive to balance it. Alongside this are experimental schemes where the offender makes direct reparation to the victim.

In its new proposals the Home Office also wants to stiffen the conditions under which community service orders are served. Penalties would be laid down for reporting unfit for work through drink or drugs; repeated absences would be taken back to court, and work would be monitored through weekly reports.

These are useful, if marginal, improvements which could have been introduced routinely without a public fanfare. Probably, they should have been.

The Home Office proposals are as yet only at the consultative stage. Even so, they have elicited protest from the probation service which is responsible for administering community service orders. These objections are based partly on the shaky grounds that they conjure up the image of labour gangs in ball and chain breaking stones at the roadside.

However undesirable — and retrogressive — this would be, it is not in the public interest that alternatives to prison should be dismissed as weak or soft. To underline the possible sentences available and to offer alternatives harsh enough to satisfy public feeling, which look and feel appropriate, and restore the concept of crime as a public debt, are valuable reforms. They would be especially so if they keep offenders out of the corrupting environment of a custodial sentence.

UNDER THE SOUTH POLE

Ever since Dutch venturers penetrated the Great Southern Ocean in the 17th Century, men have dreamt of hoards of gold buried beneath the South pole. The treasures of the present age are oil, coal and uranium — all of which are thought to lie under the ice. But the problem remains: how to get them out. The agreement on a new Antarctic mining convention goes a little way towards solving that problem.

Opinions differ on how soon large-scale mining operations might begin, even if they should begin at all. According to representatives of the governments involved in the negotiations, ice cap, freezing winds and six-month winters mean that a mining convention is less a necessary piece of legislation than a way of strengthening the Antarctic Treaty of 1961, which is due for renewal in 1991. Environmentalists, in contrast, fear that the world's "last great natural wilderness" will be polluted. They would like to see the whole continent preserved as a "world park", out of bounds to commercial activity.

The Antarctic Treaty, which closes the region to military activity but opens it to scientific endeavour, has been described as "a remarkable device, but a delicate one". Britain is one of the seven states which continue to have territorial claims to large parts of the continent: although these claims were suspended under the treaty. To achieve the treaty at all — to ensure that it is observed, and extend it by other conventions — has taken much difficult negotiation.

The mining convention, which has been six years in the making, will be a good way of

strengthening it and preventing uncontrolled prospecting. By permitting mining in principle, but making it difficult in practice, the convention should help to prevent a free-for-all in prospecting. It sets strict conditions to be met before any application for mining is approved. There must also be a consensus among the signatories to the Antarctic Treaty. Both are potentially useful safeguards.

At present, economics militate against Antarctica becoming the scene of a great mineral rush. The present price of oil and most minerals on world markets is too low to convince anyone to invest in so risky a venture. World reserves of essential minerals will last for some time. In the foreseeable future, Antarctica will probably be left alone.

Eventually, however, prospecting for oil and minerals will no doubt take place. Given this inevitability, the most important safeguard included in the convention is that of "good housekeeping". Mining operators must guarantee restoration if they are deemed to have caused any environmental damage. The new arrangements continue to provide for strict monitoring.

At present the Antarctic is virtually untouched by direct pollution. This makes it a unique laboratory for the study of the world's atmosphere. Such a laboratory may be crucially important for future generations of scientists. It is irreplaceable, and must not be spoiled. To the extent that the new Antarctic mining convention commits a group of nations to making that less likely, it is a considerable achievement.

Vacant seats at the universities

From the Vice-Chancellor of Bristol University
Sir, The correspondence on the vacant Regius professorships (May 31) raises issues much wider than the domestic difficulties of Oxford University. In particular, Sir Philip Goodhart's letter illustrates some of the confusion of present higher education policy.

Sir Philip suggests that "the debate at Oxford could actually strengthen the arguments for the new, more direct, form of university funding" which the Government he supports is pushing through Parliament. But he then goes on to compare Oxford unfavourably with Yale and Vassar, on the grounds that they do without public funding and raise substantial sums from their graduates.

The key difference between the British universities and the American private colleges like Yale and Vassar is that the former are required by Government to educate home (and EC) students for fees which the Government sets at a derisory level, and which it knows meet only a small fraction of the cost of that education.

The shortfall is made up by the inadequate UGC grant, which will in future be conditional on universities obeying detailed instructions which the Government will remit through the UGC's successor body.

If the nation wants universities to stand on their own financial feet, it must give them the power to charge realistic fees, and it must replace the UGC grant by a proper system of student support covering fees as well as living expenses. Universities would then be able, as are their American counterparts, to present potential benefactors with a prospect more attractive than merely relieving public expenditure, a prospect of enriching the education and the research which the nation needs but is evidently unwilling to pay for.

Your obedient servant,
J. F. C. KINGMAN,
Vice-Chancellor,
University of Bristol,
Senate House,
Bristol, Avon.
June 1.

From the Vice-Chancellor of the City University
Sir, In the course of the debate in both Houses on the Education Reform Bill much time has been spent on the question of whether, in future, universities will be

tempted to dismiss professors and appoint lecturers in their place in order to save money. It is known to the professionals as the Oxford East question, since it was first raised by the MP for that constituency.

There seems to be a misunderstanding about the practicability and financial effects of such moves. It could not be claimed in such circumstances that redundancy existed since a replacement was being made. Therefore, the outgoing post-holder would be entitled to expect the severance terms currently on offer. The Secretary of State for Education and Science has stated publicly that such terms will be available while restructuring continues, even under the conditions of contract that will arise when the Bill is enacted.

This means that, although there would be a saving on salary, the capital cost of severance would have to be set against the saving. Of course the details would vary from case to case, but if we take as a representative example a 55-year-old professor being replaced by a 30-year-old lecturer, the relative costs can be calculated. The lecturer would be on an incremental scale and the interest foregone on the capital cost of the severance would have to be taken into account at the appropriate rate.

The result of such a calculation shows that there would be no saving in the first 10 years if the lecturer stays as a lecturer. If he or she advances to become a professor by age 45 there is never any saving.

The conclusion must be that the "Oxford East" method is not an effective response to financial stringency. If it were applied it would simply weaken the academic strength of the institution, without compensating savings.

Yours faithfully,
RAOUL FRANKLIN,
Vice-Chancellor,
City University,
Northampton Square, EC1.
June 1.

From Dr Rosamond McGuinness
Sir, Shortly before we graduated from Vassar in 1951 the President called the class together and suggested various ways in which we could make out our wills — to the college's advantage!
Yours sincerely,
ROSAMOND MCGUINNESS,
23 Alma Street, NWS.
June 1.

Across the court

From Mr James Spencer
Sir, In your leading article entitled "Judge and jury" (June 3) you express the view that to make juries feel safer one measure might be the rearrangement of the court in order to deprive the public gallery of a sight of the jury. I entirely agree but fear that it may not be so simple to implement.

One aspect of the Leeds football hooliganism case of which I have seen no mention is the design of the courtroom. The public seating faces directly across the court to the jury box. Not only is it possible for the jury to feel intimidated by stares, but it is also possible for the jury to be influenced during the evidence by facial and audible reaction from the public who are present and who may have a personal interest in the case being heard.

The Leeds court-house is a recent building of modern design. This aspect of the design is clearly unsuccessful but it is difficult to imagine how the layout could be altered in this new building. Perhaps in future courts construction, your suggestion of a return to the more traditional arrangement of having the public seating at the back of the room rather than in its midst should be the purpose of the design.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES SPENCER,
11 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, EC4.
June 3.

Alternatives to prison

From Mr J. M. Macmillan
Sir, If an offender is given a prison sentence, there is a 75 per cent chance that he will re-offend. So said Mr John Patten this morning on Radio 4, talking about the stiffening up of the community service order programme, the implication being that prison necessarily brutalises and increases the likelihood of further offences.

Effective alternatives to custodial sentences are widely welcomed, just as the size of the prison population is widely deplored. But I wish Mr Patten, and so many others, would refrain from trotting out this condemnation of the prison system — a condemnation which has been repeated so often recently that it now seems to be accepted unchallenged as fact.

European unions

From the General Secretary of the International Metalworkers' Federation
Sir, You began your leader (May 30) with the statement that "the trade union organizations of Europe have a history of hostility towards the European Community". This is nonsense. Apart from the TUC of the 1970s and today only the declining communist union in France, the rest of the European trade union movement has endorsed and worked with the EEC for many years.

Even within the TUC, I would say that the more progressive and

Luck of the draw

From Mrs Katie White
Sir, Your leading article (May 27) on legal lotteries raises a number of interesting issues, not least of which is the fact that in recent years the enactment of any amending legislation concerning gaming has itself become a lottery.

In 1983 proposals were made to the Gaming Board for the establishment of a national bingo game to be played nightly for a prize of £50,000. Both the Gaming Board and the Home Office were supportive of the scheme but the Government were unable to find any room for the necessary legislation.

A move to introduce the Bill from the House of Lords, itself something of a gamble, was frustrated by the dissolution of Parliament because of the 1984 general election.

The fact that the Gaming (Bingo) Act 1988 finally reached the statute book was dependent on finding a friendly MP who was fortunate enough to win nineteenth place in the draw for private members' Bills.

All this was dependent on as many elements of luck as was needed to win any proposed national lottery.
Yours faithfully,
K. WHITE, Director,
Bingo Business Services Ltd,
22a Albion Street,
Dunstable, Bedfordshire.
May 30.

A survey has indeed established that 75 per cent of those receiving prison sentences go on to commit further offences after their release, but the conclusion drawn by Mr Patten and others from this statistic has, I suggest, been twisted round.

It is not that prison sentences increase the likelihood of re-offending but that the large majority of those imprisoned receive custodial sentences because they are likely to re-offend. It is perhaps a very slight encouragement that of those passing through the prison system only 75 per cent commit further crimes.
Yours faithfully,
J. M. MACMILLAN,
Curling Tye Cottage,
Woodham Walter,
Maldon,
Essex.
May 31.

forward-looking unions were European-minded at a time when such policies were not fashionable in the British labour movement.

You are right to say there is a growing interest amongst trade unions in 1992 and all it entails. National unions observe the increasing internationalization of production, trade and finance and are now looking for trans-frontier ways of ensuring that the internal market of Europe has a social dimension.

It is European law, to be obeyed by all EEC states and all companies, that is being used to call into being the single market. The unions see no reason why Euro-

Tory policy and family values

From the Director of Familybase
Sir, Mrs Thatcher's recent speeches suggest she has failed to understand the nature of Christian commitment to the family.

Christianity is at root a collectivist religion, where the collective is the family. "Honour your father and mother" and other such teachings point to a definition of the family which involves the wider or extended family pattern, not the western nuclear model. When money flows between and among family members it has a key role to play in personal bonding.

Mrs Thatcher's economic policies have been individualistic in conception. Families are now to be treated as individuals for personal taxation purposes (Finance Bill 1988), and for local taxation (Local Government Finance Bill 1988). People are encouraged to see themselves as individuals rather than as part of family collectives, and this strikes at the root of family solidarity.

The attempt to deregulate Sunday trading (Shops Bill 1985) would have taken hundreds of thousands of mothers out to work and away from their children on the one day of the week when most families can be together. Removal of constraints on consumer credit (Finance Act 1983) without adequate public education has led to countless family break-ups.

Commitment to mobility, and failure to help depressed regions, has separated adult children from elderly parents in many families, making the kind of "honouring" the Bible has in mind more and more difficult. So, in the words of Jesus, we have "made void the word of God by our tradition" (Mark 7, xiii).

A Christian commitment to the family means that, when the interests of the family clash with the interests of the market, the family must come first. We now look forward to seeing the forma-

tion of a family policy to match family words.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL SCHLUTER, Director,
Familybase,
Jubilee House,
3 Hooper Street, Cambridge.

From Rabbi E. L. Gastwirth
Sir, A red triangle, the sign of an accident, has been given a human personality. It is to be called "Mervyn", and is part of a pack that is being sent to 25,000 schools in a major publicity campaign to warn children against going with strangers.

These great publicity campaigns, warning against Aids, or against contact with strangers, or patches stuck on the leaking ship of a disintegrating morality. Hardly anyone seems at all interested in rebuilding the ship or renewing its timbers. The great "freedom" won by a permissive society have torn great holes in the fabric of family life which have weakened its structures and it now leaks badly.

How can such a ship survive in the storms and pressures of life? As we rush desperately to seal the breaches made by the threat of Aids or child abuse, or teenage violence or the abduction and murder of children more and more desperate gaps appear. It is a losing battle, because society wants to retain its freedoms, its pornography, its lack of moral discipline, without having to pay the price for them.

Our society is drifting into a "condom" mentality in which it feels that modern medicine will always find the means to protect it from its own excesses. Is there no one, then, to say that excesses are wrong? The creators of the permissive society have won their battles and society is left to pay the bitter price.

Yours faithfully,
E. L. GASTWIRTH,
3 Falcon Court,
Park Street,
Salford, Greater Manchester.
May 31.

Community radio

From the Chairman of the Community Radio Association
Sir, Your recent report (May 20) of yet more "stippage" in the Government's plans for radio has already had the effect the Community Radio Association predicted: a fresh outbreak of illegal broadcasting. This new wave of radio piracy only compounds the frustration at the delay felt by aspiring community broadcasters who would dearly like to operate within a legal framework.

Moreover, the Government is now in the unhappy position of having to spend almost as much on anti-piracy measures as it would on a new, enabling radio authority.

There is general agreement that a sensible expansion of the British system is long overdue. But present policy is in danger of leading us towards the mess made

by France and Italy. There, lack of constructive action led to mass piracy, the result of which has been chaos — and a reduction of choice for the listener.

One way out of the impasse is for the Government to signal its commitment, and find out if its proposals for radio actually will increase choice. It could, for example, ask the IBA to license some small or dedicated stations under existing legislation.

This could also test the ability of community radio to promote social cohesion, perhaps by encouraging inner-city and ethnic stations. We would then, at last, have real evidence of the value of public enthusiasm for community radio.
Yours sincerely,
BEVAN JONES, Chairman,
Community Radio Association,
47 Breamham Way,
Ealing, W5.
June 2.

Widow's mite

From Mr P. F. Johnston
Sir, Your readers who greet, with ecstatic joy, every communication from Mr Baker, may have overlooked the real significance of Statutory Instrument 1988 no 816 (The Teachers' Superannuation Provisions, no 2) which comes into force today (May 31), albeit with one unusual provision.

In this statutory instrument, I read not only of the sensible provision which enables teachers' pensions to be paid to widows but, under regulation 7, a remarkable new provision which now provides that "widows of a polygamous marriage are now jointly entitled to any widow's pension that becomes payable".

As one struggling to provide for my potential widow, I am intrigued that Mr Baker should be so concerned about what must remain as a purely hypothetical case for the majority of us.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP F. JOHNSTON
(Headmaster),
Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School,
Blackburn, Lancashire.

Falklands GNP

From Mr Peter Rein
Your Defence Correspondent reported (May 25) the astonishing fact that last year the island's gross national product rose from £9.89 million to £30.7 million, a truly staggering increase of 210.4 per cent.

In view of this sudden but doubtlessly well-earned prosperity, will it now be possible for the British tax-payer to be relieved of some of the heavy burden of the defence costs of the Falklands?

Yours faithfully,
PETER P. H. REIN,
Peter Rein Associates,
4 Borough View,
Torrington, Devon.

pean law cannot oblige the state and companies to treat workers as partners with clear rights common and applicable throughout Europe.

If companies are to be encouraged to operate as Euro-entities, then it is clearly unfair for workers and their unions to be prevented from doing the same.

Yours truly,
HERMAN REBHAN,
General Secretary,
International Metalworkers' Federation,
54 bis Route des Acacias,
CH-1227 Geneva,
Switzerland.
May 31.

PMs and prelates

From Dr Sheridan Gilley
Sir, Your reviewer John Grigg (June 2) assigns to Churchill the remark that "he was not a pillar of the Church but a buttress — he supported it from the outside".

The Oxford Dictionary of Quotations attributes a very similar statement to an earlieritudinarian Prime Minister, Lord Melbourne, with his other famous ecclesiastical dicta, "Damn it all, another Bishop died — I verily believe they die to vex me", and "Things have come to a pretty pass when religion is allowed to invade the sphere of private life".

Yours sincerely,
SHERIDAN GILLEY,
University of Durham,
Department of Theology,
Abbey House,
Palace Green,
Durham.
June 2.

Pole position

From Mr R. W. Buckley
Sir, Meeting up with your old car is not always a pleasurable experience (letters, May 31).

In the 1983 general election I was the Conservative candidate for North in South Wales. One day I canvassed a house which had in its drive a car I had sold in London a year or so before.

The new owner, far from being impressed by what I thought was an amazing coincidence, immediately declared that this was as good a reason as any for voting Labour.

Yours faithfully,
R. W. BUCKLEY,
19 Corringham Road,
Wembley Park, Middlesex.
June 1.

From Mr John Rogers, QC
Sir, My old housemaster liked to tell how, having sold his Morris 800 on the last day of the summer term, 1948, he drove his "new" Rover down to Swangee the next day and then from his hotel to the beach. That evening he drove back to his hotel and only on arrival did he realise he was at the wheel of his old car.

He returned to the beach and found his "new" car in the space adjoining the one from which he had removed the Morris. With great embarrassment, he handed the Morris back to the new owner, together with a set of keys he had overlooked.
Yours faithfully,
JOHN ROGERS,
Wrotham House Cottage,
Wrotham, Kent.
May 31.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 4: The Prince Edward left Heathrow Airport, London this morning in a Canadian Forces Challenger 601 Challenger for Canada where his Royal Highness will visit Ottawa, Toronto and Newfoundland.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer, Captain William McLean and Captain Timothy Justice are in attendance.

June 5: The Princess Royal, President of the Federation of International Equestrian, attended a fund-raising luncheon in aid of the British Equestrian Olympic Fund and afterwards viewed the Nations Cup Competition at Hickstead, West Sussex.

Her Royal Highness, attended by Mrs Malcolm Wallace, travelled in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight.

The infant son of Mr and Mrs Peter Carlton Jones was christened Timothy Peter on Sunday, June 5, at St Mary's Church, Wimbledon, by Canon Gerald Parrott. The godparents are Mr Nicholas Dwyer, Mr Christopher Rose, Mrs John Lawrence and Mrs Gerald Oury.

Birthdays today

Sir Derek Alan Jones, company director, 55; Sir Isaiah Berlin, OM, former president, British Academy, 79; Professor B. Bleaney, physicist, 73; Mr Bjorn Borg, tennis player, 32; Lord Carrington, CH, 69; Dame Ninette de Valois, CH, founder, Royal Ballet, 90; Mr Mike Gatting, cricketer, 31; Mr Ian Hamilton, composer, 66; Professor R.A. Humphreys, Latin-American historian, 81; Lord Inchey, 88; Mr Kay-Mount, President of the States, Alderney, 55; Lord Kings Norton, 86; Mr Willie John McBride, rugby player, 48; Mr Justice McNeill, 56; the Marquess of Milford Haven, 77; Sir Douglas Morfitt, chartered accountant, 64; Sir Ian Nicholson, chairman, Post Office, 56; Lord Nugent of Guildford, 81; Air Marshal Sir Charles Pringle, 69; Dr Ruth Sanger, haematologist, 70; Lord Stodart of Leaton, 72; Mr Klaus Tennstedt, conductor, 62; Miss Billie Whitelaw, actress, 56.

King's College School, Wimbledon

The following elections have been made for September 1988: Major Scholarships: Andre Shilton (Homefield); Tapesi Pukraschi (King's College Junior School); Classic Award: Scholar: Duncan Bell (Shrewsbury House); Latin Scholar: Robert Hills (Walpole); Robert Hills (Walpole); and KCS; Bhasikar Mukherjee (KCS); Amir Ghodse (KCS); David Mumford (KCS); Exhibitions: Alastair Law (KCS); Matthew Shoultis (KCS); Sanjay Chatterjee (KCS); Timothy O'Connell (KCS); Music Scholar: Julian Cowling (KCS); Patrick Parker (KCS); Junior Scholars: Andrew King (Wimbledon Common Prep); Thomas Morton (St James's, Twickenham); Stephen Nichols (St Andrew's, St James's, Surbiton); Yobel Yamuchi (Westbury House House, New Malden).

St George's School, Ascot

The Board of Governors of St George's School, Ascot, has appointed Mrs Anne M. Griggs, presently with Harrogate Ladies' College, to be Headmistress from January 1989, in succession to Mrs Judith M. Goodland, on her appointment as Headmistress of Wycombe Abbey.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P.M.F. Allen and Miss A. Sneed-Cox. The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of Mrs K.W. Robinson, of Belfast, Northern Ireland, and Anne, only daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel R.J.F. Sneed-Cox, and Mrs E.M. Sneed-Cox, of Broxwood, Herefordshire.

Mr E.R. Barge and Miss A.S.G. Newall. The engagement is announced between Henry, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Ronald M. Barge, of Whistler's Hill, Rhu, Dumfriesshire, and Amanda, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen P. Newall, of Rowley, Rhu, Dumfriesshire.

Mr G.A. Burke and Miss M.C. Bromley. The engagement is announced between Gary Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs William Burke, of

KENSINGTON PALACE

June 5: The Prince of Wales, President of the International Council of United World Colleges, was represented by Sir Ian Courlay at the Memorial Service for Rear-Admiral Desmond Hoare which was held at Atlantic College, St Donat's Castle, Llanwrtyd Major, South Glamorgan this morning.

June 4: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President of the Girl Guides Association, this afternoon opened the City of Dundee Girl Guides Outdoor Centre at Newburgh, Perthshire.

The Lady Glenconner was in attendance.

June 5: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, was present this afternoon at the Annual Normandy Campaign Commemorative Service in the Parish Church of All Hallows, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, and took the Salute at the subsequent Parade.

Dame Jean Maxwell-Scott was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh will open the Visitor's Centre at Selkirk at 10.00, will inaugurate the Morcanne Gas Field and Terminal at Barrow in Furness and will visit the British Gas Platform in Morcanne Bay at 2.00.

The Prince of Wales, President of the Prince's Trust, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, will attend a rock concert at the Albert Hall at 7.20 in aid of the trust; and a reception at the Hilton International Kensington at 10.40.

The Duchess of York will visit the Painhill Park Trust, Esher, Surrey, at 11.20.

The Princess Royal will attend a dinner at the Institute of Directors, Pall Mall, at 7.30.

Princess Margaret, President of the Royal Ballet, will attend a Royal Gala Night of Ballet, a celebration of the nineteenth birthday of Dame Ninette de Valois, at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, at 7.20 in aid of the Royal Ballet School Appeal.

Princess Alexandra will attend a mid-summer dinner and musical evening at the Mansion House at 7.15 in aid of the British Association of Cancer United Patients (BACUP).

Royal Marines Beating Retreat

The massed bands of the Royal Marines will Beat Retreat on Horse Guards Parade on June 7, 8 and 9.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, Captain General of the Royal Marines, will be present on June 9.

Seats are available. Telephone 01-218 3955 or usual ticket agents.

National Association of Almshouses

The annual general meeting of the National Association of Almshouses was held in Goldsmiths Hall, London, on Tuesday, May 31, 1988. Lady Benson was in the Chair. The Chief Charity Commissioner, Mr Robin Guthrie, addressed the meeting.

St Paul's Girls' School League

The annual meeting of St Paul's Girls' School League, followed by supper, will be held on Friday July 8. All old girls are welcome and are cordially invited to the school's annual athletics event in the afternoon. Further details may be obtained from the league secretary at the school.

The relationship between church and state remains one of the most difficult controversies of public life, as recent events have proved once more. It has been a constant theme of the administration of Mrs Margaret Thatcher, by all accounts the most theologically minded Prime Minister this century, and her recent actions have made the issue even more prominent. But it is a controversy which refuses to settle into manageable shape for even the terms of the argument are part of the disagreement.

No-one can really suggest, for instance, that the cleavage between the spiritual and temporal realms should be absolute — the view sometimes naively summed up by saying that the church should "stay in the sanctuary". Mrs Thatcher herself certainly believes no such thing. And a constitution which puts two dozen bishops in the upper chamber of the legislature, bishops the Prime Minister feels to appoint, gives no warrant for such a radical separation either. No-one suggests, on the other hand, that the church has any inspired means of knowing what should be the present level of the public sector borrowing requirement, for instance.

The argument falls within these two extremes, and it is not even clear whom the argument is between. "The church" of popular or political speech seems to mean the senior clergy, bishops especially, but they would be the first to disown such an exclusive label. Mrs Thatcher is as much a member of the Church of England as the Bishop of Gloucester, the latest prelate to challenge her publicly, and he would not deny it. One of the major complications, therefore, is that the controversy is only partly between the church and the government; it is also partly an argument within the church itself.

The substance of the argument is about the practical application of Christian teaching in the organization of national affairs, particularly social and economic policy. But there are not even common ground rules as to the theoretical basis of the debate. It is easy to quote the Bible, easiest if one is fairly ignorant of it as a whole; but for almost every text in Scripture which can be offered on one

side, there will be another saying the opposite, and a third mocking the conceit of the whole exercise.

Thus Mr Kinnock's "more Christian than you" gibe at the Prime Minister last month founders on the parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector (traditionally, the "publican"). The Pharisee stood up boldly and thanked God that he was not grasping and unjust, unlike the tax collector he saw hiding at the back of the temple. The other simply prayed "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." But he had God's approval; the Pharisee did not, and Mr Kinnock was unwittingly bracketing himself with the Pharisee.

But Mrs Thatcher's boast in reply that she voluntarily relinquishes part of her salary sounds like the advertisement of a good deed to gain public approval: which may sound disapproving, but why else did she do it? Of such people Jesus coldly remarked "They have had their reward," adding that the doing of good works and the giving of alms should be so little publicized that even the right hand should not know what the left hand is doing.

The Bible has a way of biting the hand that quotes it, and all politicians must stand under judgement. The magnificent "He hath put down the mighty from their seats, and exalted them of low degree." But the daily political debate necessarily involves countless small acts of pride, and humble politicians just do not get elected. The meek may be otherwise blessed, but they do not perform well at the Dispatch Box.

The Bible is not useful as a text book of economics either. Selling everything to give to the poor is not exactly a text in favour of wealth creation; nor is paying the labourer the same for one hour as others received for a whole day, socialism; it is more a text for "management's right to manage" — badly, perhaps.

So it might seem safer to rely on three other sources from which religious teaching may be drawn: tradition, what the church has consistently said down the ages; the *sensus fidelium*, the agreed mind of the church today; and theology, what the religious experts have to say.

But if it is impossible to find in the Christian tradition evidence in support

of something as fundamental as democracy, there is not much point in searching for clues concerning the right balance of powers between national government and local education authorities, on which churchmen have recently stated strong views. The *sensus fidelium*, on the other hand, is a *user theory* but a dangerous concept in practice. If articles of faith cannot be decided by majority votes — and no-one in the church thinks they can be — then why should the application of the faith in specific cases be so decided? What a majority of members of the General Synod of the Church of England vote for cannot have much more authority than a straw poll of a rather peculiar sample of the total population. It might or might not be sensible, but it certainly cannot claim to be the Word of God.

Theologians, on the other hand, tend to think they really do know some of the answers. The problem in Britain is that the development of social theology is weak and neglected, and what passes for it is often not much more than a sprinkling of holy water over what are essentially secular political prejudices. The famous 1985 report *Faith in the City*, for instance, was written by an Archbishop's Commission which was emphatically weighted towards sociology, with hardly a theologian in sight; and the report itself was at its least convincing in its theological section (as the Church of England has subsequently come to realise).

When an earlier commission was set up to write the report *The Church and the Bomb* the Church of England invited onto it a distinguished Roman Catholic moral theologian to give it theological weight; when a later committee was asked to study "values in British society" the Church of England borrowed a Jesuit for the same purpose. These were implicit admissions of weakness in this area of Anglican theology. And this strongly suggests that the Church of England is not quite at home even on its own territory, and needs to be very much more careful than it has been so far in challenging Mrs Thatcher's theology as incompetent. It certainly has no right to patronise her.

Clifford Longley

When church and state differ

Nature notes

Blackcap song is falling off as the males start helping to feed the young in their flimsy nests, which is often hidden in a twist of hawthorn.

Linnet pairs bring food for their young from far away, twittering sweetly as they fly, and swoop down together on the ground or in the bushes where the nest is concealed. The male waits on a tall spray while the female goes in, then he drops down and delivers his own beakful.

Young green woodpeckers in their nest-holes are fed by their parents on regurgitated insects they can recognise the scratching sound of the parents' feet as they land, and lift their mouths at once.

Everywhere the leaves are a rich green, and lustrous summer flowers are opening. On-eyes dahlias are thick in the grass, in the beds the first dog-roses are out — large pink flowers with white and yellow centres. On waste land there are the slender, pale green spikes of wild mignonettes and clumps of yellow wall rocket, like a lanky fern in character. The deep purple flowers of hedge woadwort are already tall in the ditches; hop trefoil and bird's foot trefoil spread along the ground where the wild strawberries are turning to fruit.

DJM



Natalia Chater, aged six, Asuka Leslie, seven, and Orianda Briers, five, were among 50 boys and girls — pupils of the London Suzuki Group — who gave a concert/demonstration in the Purcell Room, South Bank, London yesterday, the last day of the Martini Cellothon 88. Julian Lloyd Webber's three day cello festival (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

Marriages

Mr D. Miller and Miss E.A.S. Studdert. A service of blessing was held on Saturday at St Swithun's upon Kingsgate, Winchester, after the marriage of Major David Miller, son of the late Mr L.R. and Lady Patricia Miller, to Miss E.A.S. Studdert, daughter of the late Commander and Mrs M.E.P. Studdert. The Rev Michael Bentou officiated.

Mr J.E.G. Younger and Miss J.V. Wootton. The Duke and Duchess of York attended the marriage which took place on Saturday at the Church of St John the Baptist, Pilton, Somerset, of Mr James Younger, eldest son of the Hon George Younger, MP, and Mrs Younger, of Easter Leslie, Gairnlock, Strirling, to Miss Jennie Wootton, daughter of Mr and Mrs William Wootton, of Chanters House, Pilton. The Right Rev J.M. Rickersteth and the Rev Gordon Miller officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mary Bonner Baker, Claire Davis, Rebecca Price, Rollo Price, Freddy Davis and Miss Vivien Sylvester. Mr Charles Noble was best man. A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent in Canada.

Mr R.C. Stamp and Miss S.C. Lester. The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Nicholas, Kentworth, Warwickshire, of Mr Robbie Stamp, elder son of the Hon Colin and Dr Gillian Stamp, of Barnes, London, to Miss Susan Lester, daughter of the late Mr John F. Lester and of Mrs John H. Carter, of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. The Right Rev Stephen Verney officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Sophia de Haan, Emma Wood-Croft, Nicholas de Haan and Michael Thomas Eggleston-Petrie. Mr John P. Heath was best man.

A reception was held at Northampton Down, Hampshire, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr N.A. Evans and Miss P.C. Bignell. The marriage took place on Saturday, June 4, 1988, at St Giles's Church, Tottenham, between Mr Neil Alan Evans, younger son of Mr and Mrs A.S. Evans, of Billericay, Essex, and Miss Paula Caroline Bignell, only daughter of Mr and Mrs D.R. Bignell, of Dunstable, Bedfordshire. A reception was held afterwards at Harpenden Moat House, Harpenden, Hertfordshire. The honeymoon couple will visit Hong Kong, Thailand and Faket.

Mr S.R. Alsop and Miss H.C. Eggleston. The marriage took place on Saturday in the Chapel of St Cross, Winchester, of Mr Simon Richard Alsop, only son of Mr and Mrs B.G.P. Alsop, of Surrey, to Miss H.C. Eggleston, daughter of the late Mr K.M. and Lady Clarissa Eggleston, of Weston Park, Hampshire. Canon A.C.B. Deedes officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Sophia de Haan, Emma Wood-Croft, Nicholas de Haan and Michael Thomas Eggleston-Petrie. Mr John P. Heath was best man.

A reception was held at Northampton Down, Hampshire, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr S.R. Alsop and Miss H.C. Eggleston. The marriage took place on Saturday at St Bartholomew's, Gosport, Northamptonshire, of Mr Andrew Robinson Rawlin, eldest son of Dr and Mrs Michael Rawlin, of North Anston, Sheffield, Yorkshire, to Miss Miranda Brassy, eldest daughter of the Hon Thomas and Mrs Brassy, of Duncombe, Towcester, Northamptonshire. The Rev C.E.M. Roderick officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by the Hon Zara Brassy, the Hon Chloe Brassy, James Robinson and Miss Harriet Sellick. Mr Christopher Rawlin was best man. A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Captain S.R.E. Merton and Miss S.M. Cox. The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Peter and St Paul, Broadwell, Lechlade, of Captain Simon Merton, The Royal Hussars, son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Robin Merton, of Winchester, to Miss S.M. Cox, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs Charles Cox, of Broadwell House. The Rev W.L. Graczbrook officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Camilla Wilson, Jessica Arthur, Emma Tuck, Katie Tuck, George Duckworth, Archie Duckworth and Thomas Sinclair. Mr Mark Rogers was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R.P. Taylor and Miss V.L. Clay. The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St Mary and St Michael, Trumpington, Cambridgeshire, of Mr Robin Taylor, youngest son of the late Mr Richard Taylor and of Mrs Taylor, of Grange Farm, Bourn, Cambridgeshire, to Miss Virginia Clay, elder daughter of Sir Richard and Lady Clay, of de Freville Avenue, Cambridge. The Rev D. Maddox officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Alicia Taylor and Miss Catherine Clay. Mr Anthony Taylor was best man.

A reception was held at the Garden House Hotel, Cambridge, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr J.H.H. Goble and Mrs V.P.J. Coke-Wallis. The marriage took place on Saturday, June 4, in Somerset, of Mr James Goble and Mrs Yvonne Coke-Wallis (nee Stone).

Mr J.H.H. Norton and Miss G.L. Milburn. The marriage took place on June 4, at the Church of St John the Baptist, Colyton, Devonshire, of Mr James Norton, younger son of Mr and Mrs Peter Norton, of Colton, Malaga, Spain, to Miss Gill Milburn, elder daughter of the late Mr S.P. Milburn and Mrs Irene Milburn, of Bonobel Place, London, SW1. The Rev Roger Clifton officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Mr Maurice Leggett, assisted by Miss Beatrice Ferraro di Ventimiglia, Kate Ruck Keene, Nicky Azam and Pandora McCormick. Mr Toby Weller-Poley was best man.

OBITUARY

SIR D. R. NICHOLLS

Australia's first aborigine governor

Sir Douglas Ralph Nicholls, KVO, OBE, the first aborigine to become the governor of an Australian state, died on June 4 at the age of 81. He was also a prominent Christian mission pastor.

When the Progressive Labour government in South Australia chose him to become the Queen's representative in 1976 there was an outcry among the more conservative-minded in Adelaide but Nicholls only served four months of what was to be a five year term, resigning on the grounds of ill-health in April 1977.

Nicholls, who was a full blooded aborigine and had been brought up in the Yoti Yoti tribal settlement, succeeded Sir Mark Oliphant, an eminent Australian scientist, as governor.

Director of the Aborigines' Advancement League from 1969 to 1976, Nicholls had also been the first aborigine to be so honoured when he received a knighthood in 1972.

Nicholls was regarded as a man of substance who worked for the advancement of aborigines' social rights.

He personally admitted there might be an element of "tokenism" in his getting the largely ceremonial post but, answering black aborigine "activists", claimed it would also "make it easier for other aborigines".

Many South Australians at the time welcomed the choice; there was controversy, how-

ever, over one local television station's new view with the governor-designate.

The newsman had insisted on knowing whether Nicholls's wife, also an aborigine, would feel at ease in the state capital's high society. The future governor ordered the television reporter out of his house.

The station subsequently apologized for racist remarks and, after the apology, Nicholls said he was glad things had been cleared up publicly.

Thousands of people lined the streets to Government House when in December 1976 he was sworn in.

It was through sport that Nicholls had managed to make his way, for he had left school at eight unable to read or write. He fought as a weight boxer, was an athlete and also the first black to achieve prominence in Australian football.

"Sport gave me the money to go to night school and the opportunity to find God," he once said.

He worked for a time as a municipal gardener, but, after a while as a lay preacher, was ordained as a pastor of the Church of Christ Aboriginal Mission in 1945.

Both he and his wife, Gladys, who was also active in the aborigines' cause, had welfare institutions in Melbourne named after them.

He is survived by one son and a daughter.

CONCHITA de OLIVARES

H. P. writes: Conchita de Olivares, Marquesa de Barzanallana, whose death occurred in Madrid last month, was a well-known and highly colourful character in Madrid's society from the 1930s until her last illness.

Her connections with the diplomatic, intellectual and artistic worlds were combined with a dynamic personality and style of life. This made her a figure of notable individuality.

Born in Madrid in 1909, Conchita was educated — as befitted the daughter of a diplomat — by nuns in England. Her temperament ensured that the English she perfected there, and while her father was minister counsellor of the Spanish Embassy in London, was spoken with great rapidity and idiomatic verve.

Although small and slim, she was a person of formidable courage in the defence of her friends. A French député, being questioned by the Gestapo in Berlin in the summer of 1939, had the good fortune to have a fearless Spanish friend marching into the police headquarters and successfully demanding his release within the hour.

Viscount Eccles recounts in his collection *By Safe Hands* an equally impressive incident at a corrida in 1940. A large

crowd of Falangists took offence at his being seated during the playing, for German visitors, of the German national anthem.

Conchita "30, pretty and very fierce" rounded on them like a tigress until the police came and he was smuggled out.

She married Alfonso de Olivares, one of the sons of the Conde de Arzaga. Olivares was an avant-garde painter in Paris, coming under Picasso's influence.

She was widowed during the Civil War, while still in her 20s and with infant twin daughters; and she remained a widow by choice until the end of her days.

She dressed with great elegance and never more so than at the Seville fair. Looking years younger than her age, she lived her life at full, and sometimes impetuous, tilt.

She was a well-known breeder of fighting bulls, an unusual activity for a woman of her time in Spain.

A nationalist, in the best sense of the word and to her fingertips, she communicated to her English friends her love of Spain and all things Spanish with a rare zest. She was thus a very special, albeit informal, ambassador for her country.

She is survived by her two daughters.

SIR BEROWALD INNES

Lieut.-Col. Sir Berowald Innes, 81, who has died aged 80, commanded the 7th Bn Seaforth Highlanders at the crossing of the Rhine in 1945. He ended his military career as Officer Commanding Troops in Uganda.

An active man who in his youth had ridden in point-to-point, he was latterly rendered almost immobile by the results of war wounds. He taught himself needlepoint and weaving, and his work was in demand, particularly for church decoration.

Ronald Gordon Berowald Innes, sixteenth baronet, of Balvenie — he succeeded Sir Walter James Innes, a kinsman, in 1978 — was the son of a Royal Navy captain and of the daughter of Colonel J.F. Forbes of Rothiemay. He was educated at Harrow and Cambridge and was commissioned in the Seaforth in 1927.

In the Second World War he

was seriously wounded in Sicily but had recovered to take command of the 7th Battalion for the last stages of the war. He became an OBE in 1943.

After the war he held staff appointments before having the satisfaction of going back to command men, in Uganda, where he went as commander of the 4th (Uganda) Bn King's African Rifles.

He retired from Uganda to farm in Kenya. After 17 years his health forced him to return to Britain.

As befitted a relative of the Lord Lyon King of Arms (the late Sir Thomas Innes of Learney), Sir Berowald decided to use his needlework skill to produce heraldic designs. The detail often required magnifying aids.

His first wife died in Kenya in 1958. In 1961 he married Christian Watson, who survived him with two sons and a daughter of the first marriage.

MR MAURICE ALLEN

Mr A. R. G. Raeburn writes: Your obituary on Maurice Allen (May 27) concentrated on his work at the Bank of England. May a former pupil add a few lines about the teacher at Balliol?

Maurice Allen's reputation was that of a formidable analytical intellect, but also of a reluctance to put pen to paper. He fully lived up to both reputations, though he must have moderated the latter during his career at the International Monetary Fund and at the Bank.

Always sparing of words, much of what he did say in tutorials initially passed clean

over one's head. And yet, Maurice had that rare gift of being an educator in the literal sense of the word, of drawing out a pupil's latent gifts and directing them towards the rigorous analysis of concepts.

Allen was then, and remained a kindly, patient, courteous and very private man.

Just over a year ago he was persuaded to return to Oxford to cast his vote in the election for a new Chancellor. Though already in very poor health, his spirit and intellect remained undimmed and he could not resist the challenge of a choice between two of his former pupils at Balliol.

Memorial service

Dr Ethel Lindgren-Uusi. A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Dr Ethel Lindgren-Uusi was held on Saturday in the Chapel at Churchville College, Cambridge. The Rev Michael Allen officiated. Dame Anne Warburton, President of Lucy Cavendish College, read *Facts of the Faith* by Canon Henry Scott Holland and Dr Marie Lawrence, Vice-President of Lucy Cavendish College, gave an address. Miss Ann Radziewicz, flute, played *Morceau de Concerto* by Fauré.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Velasquez, painter, Seville, 1599; Pierre Corneille, dramatist, Rouen, 1606; Aleksandr Pushkin, writer, Moscow, 1799; Robert Falcon Scott, Antarctic explorer, Devonport, 1868; Thomas Mann, novelist, Lübeck, Germany, 1875. DEATHS: Patrick Henry, American statesman, Red Hill, Charlotte County, Virginia, 1799; Henry Granam, Irish patriot, London, 1820; Camillo Benso, Count Cavour, Piedmont, 1861; Sir John A. Macdonald, prime minister of Canada 1867-73, 1878-91, Ottawa, 1891.

PICK OF THE WEEK AT CHRISTIE'S

Gwen John: The Precious Book

10½ x 8¼ in.

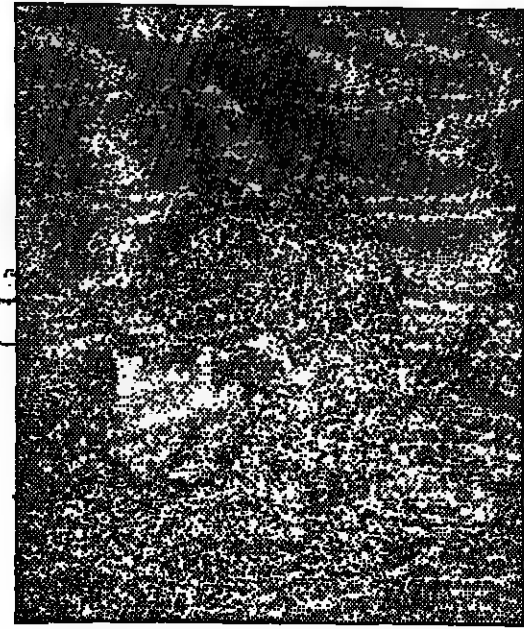
THIS IS ONE OF A SERIES of ten paintings by Gwen John known as *The Convalescent*. All the pictures in the series portray the same model, who posed for the artist in Meudon, near Paris, between 1916 and 1926. It was during this period that Gwen John was Rodin's mistress and model. She died in poverty in France in 1939.

The picture was exhibited in Gwen John's only 'one-man-show' in London in 1926, when it was hailed in *Country Life* as 'that gem called "the Precious Book", unsurpassed for tenderness and beauty'. It will be the highlight of the sale of British and Irish Modernist Paintings, Watercolours, Drawings and Sculpture at Christie's, King Street on Friday, 10 June at 10.30 a.m.

For any further information about this and other sales in the next week, please telephone (01) 839 9060.



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164-166 Bath Street, Glasgow



THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Classic's creative illusion

The intimacy and naturalism of television are making it to play whose cardinal quality is theatrical artificiality. *Elijah Moshinsky's* production of *The Rivals* (BBC 2, Sunday) resolved this difficulty by beginning with a procession of grotesquely wiggled extras, like Gillray drawings come to life, which at once provided a context of caricature for *Sheridan's* characters.

As the play proceeded, its stylistic confidence occasionally wavered and the production was dominated by the most extravagant personalities. Donald Sinden's Anthony Absolute and Ronald Pickup's Lucius O'Trigger roared at a volume thoroughly appropriate to the age of Garrick.

Sheila Hancock, as Mrs. Malaprop, simpered in a cockney squeak reminiscent of Dot the laundrette lady in *EastEnders*. Against this competition the young lovers, who have to bear the burden of the play's narrative complications, seemed muted, although Suzanne Burden's Lydia Langrish achieved considerable presence in the face of her character's basic silliness.

The Theatre Night series as a whole belongs to the genre of Reithian patronage, which aims to offer the privileges of the West End to the benighted masses who are presumed to be thirsting for classic drama. This rarely results in a play re-interpreted for television as creatively as this production.

Everyman (BBC 1, Sunday) celebrated the millennium of the Russian Orthodox Church with a visually sumptuous film full of gilded domes, jewelled icons, elaborate ceremonies and clouds of incense. We were taken inside the Monastery of the Caves at Kiev, a fabulous subterranean necropolis.

It is hard to tell a thousand years of history in 40 minutes; perhaps a more leisurely chronicle will appear among the future achievements of *glaznost*.

Over simplification was unavoidable in this case, but the programme asserted that Russia chose her brand of Christianity on the basis of its glamorous artwork and continues to worship only because of the emotional satisfaction the religion offers to an army of ignorant *babushki*. This seemed both unlikely and insulting.

Celia Brayfield

Vivien Noakes on Edward Lear, Victorian natural history and landscape artist as well as master of nonsense

Laughter out of pain



Off to sea: The Owl and the Pussycat, as drawn by Edward Lear, from the Fine Arts Society exhibition

It is said (though the story is quite untrue) that Queen Victoria, having delighted in Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*, asked that the author's next book should be sent to her. The study of mathematical theory which arrived was not what she had had in mind.

Some years earlier she had admired the work of that other master of Victorian nonsense, Edward Lear, but in this case she knew Lear as a landscape painter first and a nonsense writer second. In 1846 she had seen Lear's *Illustrated Excursions in Italy*, and had been so impressed by the lithographs that she invited him to give her a series of drawing lessons.

His other published works included one of the finest ornithological books ever produced by an Englishman: *Illustrations of the Family of Psittacidae, or Parrots*, which appeared in 1832 when Lear was only 19; six volumes derived from his travels in Italy, Greece, Albania and Corsica; four books of nonsense poems and stories; and musical settings of a dozen of the works of Alfred Tennyson.

It is only in recent years that the full range of Lear's extraordinary talents has been appreciated. Today, 100 years after his death, a memorial tablet to him will be dedicated in Poets' Corner, in Westminster Abbey and an exhibition of his natural history drawings, landscape paintings and illustrated letters opens at The Fine Arts Society.

Lear's first *Book of Nonsense*, published in 1846, enjoyed an

immediate and lasting success. It went into 24 editions in his lifetime, and has never been out of print. His later nonsense songs, such as "The Owl and the Pussycat," "The Jumblies" and "The Courtship of the Youngy-Bonghy-Bo," are nursery classics. For a century he has been respected as the Father of Nonsense, yet Lear regarded nonsense as no more than an enjoyable sideline.

In his lifetime his landscape painting did not receive the acclaim which he felt it deserved. This was partly because what many now consider to be his finest work — the fresh and often dramatically composed pencil drawings

with watercolour washes — were not sold by Lear.

He used these studies, done on his extensive travels, as works of reference for more considered studio watercolours and oil paintings. It was by these studio works that he was judged.

But sometimes they lack the individuality and sparkle of his best watercolours, which express something of the joyful freedom he experienced when travelling through beautiful countryside, close to nature. Truth to Nature was an axiom that, from his teenage years, Lear had sought instinctively.

His volume of parrot drawings

was the first ornithological work in which the draughtsman worked almost exclusively from living birds rather than from stuffed skins. Making studies from moving, screaming parrots presented Lear with problems, but also gave a vitality and personality to the birds which was the reason for the success of his ornithological work.

He came to identify with the parrots that he drew, and wrote: "should any transmigration take place at my decease I am sure my soul would be very uncomfortable in anything but one of the Psittacidae." This identification is seen in many of the drawings which accompany his limericks.

These fresh and powerful line drawings were bold forerunners of modern cartoon illustration.

Simple and uncluttered, both the illustrations and the words had a powerful impact in the mid-19th century nursery which modern readers find difficult to understand. For all their absurdity, Lear's limerick characters reflect real human characteristics more truly than the perfect heroes of the moral tale could ever do.

Lear was on the side of the child. The 20th of 21 children, he remembered childhood and understood it. But he was no Peter Pan, trapped for ever in his own early days. He retained a childlike quality of excited response to the world around him, but he did so from the standpoint of a man who suffered deeply, both physically and emotionally.

From early childhood he was tormented by epilepsy, with frequent and often violent attacks. The fact of his distressing illness was something he kept secret from all except his family, and it was not until after his death, when his diaries could be read, that even his closest friends realized the burden that Lear had carried all his life.

His response to this, and to bouts of deadening depression, was to turn from what he saw as the ugliness of his own afflicted body and mind to the creation of beauty — in painting, in poetry and above all in laughter.

● Vivien Noakes is Lear's biographer and editor of his *Selected Letters*, published by the Oxford University Press. The exhibition is at the Fine Arts Society until July 1.

CONCERTS

Special pleading

Martini Cellothorn
Queen Elizabeth Hall

What is a "cellothorn"? According to its Artistic Director, Julian Lloyd Webber, what took place on the South Bank at the weekend is a celebration of cello playing and composition for cello, with emphasis on what he considers unjustly neglected areas of the repertoire.

Julius Klengel's *Hymnus* made a radiant prologue to his first concert: a warm and richly harmonized *cantilena* for a stage full of cellists. Students from London colleges united to give a performance whose ensemble, intonation and synchronized phrasing would have been the envy of a number of permanent string groups. Then, with the City of London Sinfonia under Richard Hickox: Bridge's Oration and Holst's Invocation, framed by Britten's Young Person's Guide to Elgar's *Enigma* Variations.

Is Oration really "neglected"? Lloyd Webber's performance showed that his feeling for this strikingly original piece has deepened considerably since his own pioneering recording. The conviction was entirely persuasive, and Richard Hickox found almost Shostakovichian reserves of intensity and brutality in the orchestral writing.

Holst's Invocation is less ambitious and less consistent, but it has its moments of characteristic contemplative beauty. Lloyd Webber and Hickox approach both strengths and weaknesses with sympathy, though a spluttering cello harmonic marred the beauty of the closing bars. Britten's Young Person's Guide could have made an excellent foil — though only in the concluding fugue did the orchestra really seem to warm to the task.

Stephen Johnson

Recent in America

Speculum Musicae
Arnolfini, Bristol

The most challenging programme of six simultaneous concerts in the Bath Festival on Saturday was from fine New York group Speculum Musicae, of mostly recent American chamber pieces. There was not a minimalist moment.

Instead, we heard the rather meatier music of Lee Hyla and Allan Anderson, both in their mid-thirties. Hyla tends towards vigorous presentation of contrasting material simultaneously. In his 1985 String Quartet it was the same motifs that were contrasted, in frenetic or spacious versions.

The contrasts of his trio, *The Dream of Innocent III*, were more of timbre, since it pitted a lyrical cello (amplified) against a percussion part which acquiesced meekly, then struck out into full-scale rock music, and a piano part which perhaps arbitrated between the two. In both works Hyla revealed a highly distinctive voice, mostly Bartók-like in its stuttering rhythms, but sometimes dissolving into quaintly archaic cadences.

Anderson does not project this sort of quirky, rhetorical flair, although he controls the flow and mood of his pieces with a mature touch.

Speculum Musicae also lightened the programme with two skittish works: John Cage's austere and entrancing *Six Pieces* for Violin and Piano, and Donald Martino's *Cantata for Clarinet and Cello*, moving wittily from avant-garde gestures to snatches of 19th-century Italian opera.

Richard Morrison

Fine début despite gimmicks

OPERA

La traviata
New Theatre, Cardiff

For their summer season the Welsh National Opera are back home in the New Theatre, mightily refurbished after its closure and a good deal more spick and span an area than once it was. Their new *Traviata* is a flashy affair, directed with chilly chic by Göran Järvefelt. But it has the priceless advantage of a young American soprano, Susan Patterson, in the title role: a marvellously accomplished Violetta.

Ms Patterson, despite being put through some ugly hoops by Järvefelt, carries virtually everything for the role. She has youth, security of coloratura, an ability to unleash passion, especially in her scenes with Giorgio Germont, and the staying power to deliver Violetta's "Gran Dio" as a genuine cry of defiance at the nasty world about her.

She has obviously been exceptionally well schooled in the role. She lacks at the moment the touch to nip the hearstrings at just the right time, but that, to a great extent, is the fault of the production.

For reasons which he consistently fails to justify, Göran Järvefelt moves *Traviata* a cen-

tury or so forward in time. Violetta lives in a world which is halfway between Cocteau and a dog-eared copy of *Vogue*. Her opening party is in black. The lovers' country retreat is in white, with Violetta improbably in a trouser suit, while Flora's soirée is in red.

Laurence Dale, as Alfredo, was forced to appear with shoulder-length hair in the opening act and a ponytail at the close. Little surprise that he produced his best singing in the middle of the opera, though the decision of conductor Sir Charles Mackerras, to include every bit of Alfredo's cabaret, left Dale distinctly short of voice.

Germont père, too, got his Act II

cabaret, but Barry Mora had the vocal experience to carry this with ease. Mora's Germont neat and sturdy, coped well with Järvefelt's inventions, which had admirable chorus hanging feet in time to the Act I *brindisi* and Violetta with a miniature cross and a toy Madonna in Act III.

Sir Charles Mackerras constantly had his finger on the pulse of the music, not least when it becomes a death rattle only half obscured by false hope. Would that his sensitivity had been reflected on stage, and the WNO's astuteness in bringing Susan Patterson to Britain had been reflected in a more serious staging.

John Higgins



Defiant end: Patterson and Dale

Healthy bout of self-laceration

RADIO

From one point of view, Saturday Night Fry (Radio Four, Saturdays repeating Wednesday) has done its best network no service: it has made it impossible to listen to large sections of the Radio Four output without recalling how Stephen Fry and his fellow conspirators sent them up rotten.

In effect the whole of this six part series, now nearing its end, has been one long and painfully accurate parody of the BBC radio flagship at its least attractive.

It will not have escaped you how Radio Four announcers often feel constrained to jolly us all along as if no reasonable being could be expected to carry on listening without being cajoled. Or, again, you will have registered how the compulsion to link one programme with the next commonly ends up sounding fatuous. Then there's the insufferable, knowing mateyness which no chat show is ever able to resist for long.

The dangerous thing about *Saturday Night Fry* is that its writers and its performers not only know

their victim but realize that in order to deflate him most effectively you only need to overinflate him a very, very little. Yet from another point of view, they do their host a kindness by adding a strand of criticism to well-aimed mockery which neither *Feedback* nor *The Radio Programme* is designed to provide.

My Heroes (Radio Four Fridays) might easily have qualified as a Fry victim, had it not taken the precaution of beginning just as its potential tormentor is ending. This show was a dead duck at its first appearance in 1987 and you wonder how anyone could have been induced to bring it back.

Cliff Morgan sits down in front of one celebrity a week and invites each to chat about his or her heroes. If such an idea could have been made to work, then Morgan's first guest of the new series would have got it airborne.

George Melly is not the sort of man in whose company you are likely to spend a dull half hour, but last Friday even he came near to tedium. When otherwise interesting characters are asked to talk

about people they admire, they seem to flounder in waffle.

A really first-class interviewer, with a thorough appreciation of his guest's enthusiasms, might bring both guest and object of worship into focus and an interesting relationship. Cliff Morgan does not seem to meet either criterion.

A similar fog surrounds Hugh O'Shaughnessy's new series, *Latin Americans* (Radio Four, Wednesday). This began with half-hour portraits of an Argentinian actress, Nacha Guevara, and a Bolivian general, Gary Prado, neither of them likely to be familiar to listeners without a good working knowledge of the Latin American scene, and neither so personally compelling and/or vividly portrayed as to command unfaltering attention; nor — which I take to have been the objective — to open out the world of the Americas as seen through their eyes.

This for British listeners is the problem: unless we are fighting a South Atlantic war or Colombian desperadoes are murdering the judiciary in Bogotá, or a haul of cocaine has just been intercepted,

coverage of the area by our media is very poor indeed.

What we need first is basic information, an overview of the sub-continent, its history and its present. O'Shaughnessy does volunteer such information, but only in the book he has written to accompany the programmes. Read the one and perhaps the others will find a context. No broadcaster can really count on such co-operation from his listeners.

There was no danger that lack of information would make *The Learned Clerk* (Radio Four, Tuesday repeated Wednesday) seem unapproachable, for if there is one thing we all believe we understand, it is the working of the courts. But John Howard's look into the role of the magistrates and in particular of the Clerk of the Court soon persuaded me I knew very little.

A clerk is the professional, a solicitor or barrister, the bench are the amateurs. He may advise but may not influence. How far that optimistic distinction operates in practice made a fascinating study.

David Wade

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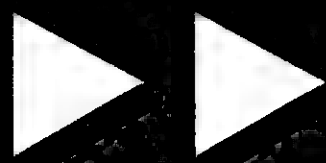
David Wade

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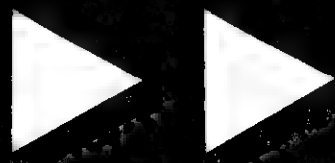
OPENING	CONTINUING	JUST OPENED	BOOK TODAY		
THE CHANGELING by Thomas Middleton and William Rowley Often called a tragedy of blood, <i>The Changeling</i> (directed by Richard Eyre) is a masterpiece of brooding intensity, a story of evil breeding evil. MIRANDA RICHARDSON plays Beatrice-Joanna whose passion for another man (PAUL JESSON) drives her to hire her father's servant, de Flores (GEORGE HARRIS), to kill her betrothed. Lyttelton: previews Jun 17, 18, 20, 21, 22. Opens Jun 23, then 24, 25mke, Jul 1, 2mke, 4, 12, 13mke, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23mke, 25, 26. "Day seats only." CITY 01-741 9999 (toll free) CC OPEN ALL HOURS 01-379 4444 (toll free) GROUP SALES 01-920 8125	THE STRANGENESS OF OTHERS PRIZE-WINNING NEW PLAY by Nick Ward The George Devine Award 1988 NICK WARD's new play creates a panorama of contemporary London: a city in which a range of individuals — rich, poor, young, old — are locked together in a network of shifting relationships. Nick Ward's previous work includes the much praised <i>APART FROM GEORGE</i> . Cottesloe: Previews Jun 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20. Opens Jun 21, then 22, 23, 24, 25mke, 27, 28, 29mke, Jul 10, 20mke.	A SMALL FAMILY BUSINESS NEW PLAY by Alan Ayckbourn BEST PLAY Standard Drama Award 1987 "AYCKBOURN has never written more skillfully or to better effect. DON'T MISS IT!" <i>Tele. Today</i> "UPROARIOUS FUN!" <i>Tele. Mail</i> "THE MOST TELLING PLAY TO COME OUT OF THATCHER'S BRITAIN" <i>Tele. Today</i> Lyttelton: Jun 6, 7, 8mke, 9, 21, 22mke, 23, 25, 30, Jul 1, 2mke, 8, 9mke, 19, 20mke, 23, 30mke.	TIS PITY SHE'S A WHORE by John Ford Revenge, betrayal, passion and corruption...and a tender story of young love between a brother (JAMES GRAYES) and a sister (SUSAN SYLVESTER). "ALAN AYCKBOURN'S STUNNING PRODUCTION!" <i>Tele. Today</i> "ONE OF THE FINEST DIRECTORS OF THE DECADE...ALL THE TENSION OF A REALLY GOOD PERIOD THRILLER" <i>Tele. Today</i> Lyttelton: Jun 15, 16, 17, 18mke, 20, 27, 28mke, Jul 6, 7, 11, 12, 13, 21, 22, 23mke.	THE SHAUGHRAUN by Dion Boucicault NB. Pronounced "Shock-ern" "Unimagined pleasure from start to finish...THRILLING STUFF" <i>Sunday Express</i> "directed with superb comic choreography" <i>Tele. Today</i> "ingenious and highly spectacular set...NOT LIKELY TO SEE IT MORE BEAUTIFULLY ACTED AND STAGED" <i>Tele. Today</i> STEPHEN REAR "irresistible" <i>Sunday Times</i> "WONDERFULLY FUNNY" <i>Sunday Telegraph</i> "THE MOST ENTERTAINING SPECTACLE TO BE SEEN IN LONDON AT THIS MOMENT" <i>Daily Mail</i> "BOWARD DAVIES' gorgeous production" <i>Tele. Today</i> "A STUNNER" <i>Mail on Sunday</i> "Roll up, roll up to see the greatest revolving stage on earth!" <i>Tele. Today</i> Lyttelton: Jun 10, 11mke, 13, 14mke, 24, 25mke, Jul 4, 5mke, 14, 15, 16, 18, 25, 26, 27, 28mke.	BOOK TODAY TELEPHONE CREDIT CARD BOOKING FEE FIRST CALL 24hr 7 DAY CC (Days 01-240 7200 (toll free)) CITY 01-741 9999 (toll free) CC OPEN ALL HOURS 01-379 4444 (toll free) GROUP SALES 01-920 8125 NT EXTRAS FOYERS OPEN ALL DAY MONDAY-SATURDAY SHORT EARLY EVENING PLATFORM PERFORMANCES, LIVE FOYER MUSIC, EXHIBITIONS IN BUFFETS AND BARS, RESTAURANT OPEN for lunch, EASY CAR PARK, BOOKSHOP, DAILY TOURS (includes backstage). Lyttelton: £6.50-£14 (lower price previews and matinees) Cottesloe: £2.50 (except FANSHEN and SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS). WEEKDAY MATINEES ONLY £5 (Olivier/Lyttelton)
CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF by Tennessee Williams "POWERFUL, POETIC, SPELLBINDING" <i>Financial Times</i> "NOT TO BE MISSED" <i>Guardian</i> "SUPERLATIVE production...with some scorching performances. FRED FORSTER...LINDSEY DUNCAN...IAN CHARLSON" <i>Tele. Today</i> Lyttelton: Jun 7, 8mke, 9, 23, 30mke, Jul 8, 9mke, 11, 27, 28, 29, 30mke.	GYMBELINE THE WINTER'S TALE THE TEMPEST Shakespeare's late plays These three plays are part of END GAMES, a celebration of late work taking place throughout the South Bank. Sponsored by CITICORP/CITIBANK "AN ORGANIC, BREATHING WHOLE...A MAJESTIC END TO ONE OF HALLS CAREERS" <i>Sunday Times</i> "It's hard to see how PETER WELLS could have made a grander finale than with these productions" <i>Tele. Today</i> Cottesloe: Day seats only for all parts until the end of July.	WAITING FOR CODOT by Samuel Beckett "Great production of a great play: lyrical, haunting, precise, funny" <i>Sunday Times</i> "A CODOT WELL WORTH WAITING FOR" <i>Tele. Mail</i> "OUTSTANDING performances" <i>Tele. Today</i> Lyttelton: Jun 6, 10, 11mke, 27, 28mke, Jul 5, 6, 7mke, 15, 16, 18, 20mke ends.	FANSHEN by David Essex based on a book by William Hinton Workshop production presented by NT Education and sponsored by The British Petroleum Company PLC (BP) "Fascinating play...marvellously stimulating production" <i>Tele. Today</i> "FIRST-RATE revival" <i>Tele. Today</i> Lyttelton: Jun 6, 10, 11mke, 27, 28mke, Jul 5, 6, 7mke, 15, 16, 18, 20mke ends.	THE SHAUGHRAUN by Dion Boucicault NB. Pronounced "Shock-ern" "Unimagined pleasure from start to finish...THRILLING STUFF" <i>Sunday Express</i> "directed with superb comic choreography" <i>Tele. Today</i> "ingenious and highly spectacular set...NOT LIKELY TO SEE IT MORE BEAUTIFULLY ACTED AND STAGED" <i>Tele. Today</i> STEPHEN REAR "irresistible" <i>Sunday Times</i> "WONDERFULLY FUNNY" <i>Sunday Telegraph</i> "THE MOST ENTERTAINING SPECTACLE TO BE SEEN IN LONDON AT THIS MOMENT" <i>Daily Mail</i> "BOWARD DAVIES' gorgeous production" <i>Tele. Today</i> "A STUNNER" <i>Mail on Sunday</i> "Roll up, roll up to see the greatest revolving stage on earth!" <i>Tele. Today</i> Lyttelton: Jun 10, 11mke, 13, 14mke, 24, 25mke, Jul 4, 5mke, 14, 15, 16, 18, 25, 26, 27, 28mke.	BOOK TODAY TELEPHONE CREDIT CARD BOOKING FEE FIRST CALL 24hr 7 DAY CC (Days 01-240 7200 (toll free)) CITY 01-741 9999 (toll free) CC OPEN ALL HOURS 01-379 4444 (toll free) GROUP SALES 01-920 8125 NT EXTRAS FOYERS OPEN ALL DAY MONDAY-SATURDAY SHORT EARLY EVENING PLATFORM PERFORMANCES, LIVE FOYER MUSIC, EXHIBITIONS IN BUFFETS AND BARS, RESTAURANT OPEN for lunch, EASY CAR PARK, BOOKSHOP, DAILY TOURS (includes backstage). Lyttelton: £6.50-£14 (lower price previews and matinees) Cottesloe: £2.50 (except FANSHEN and SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS). WEEKDAY MATINEES ONLY £5 (Olivier/Lyttelton)

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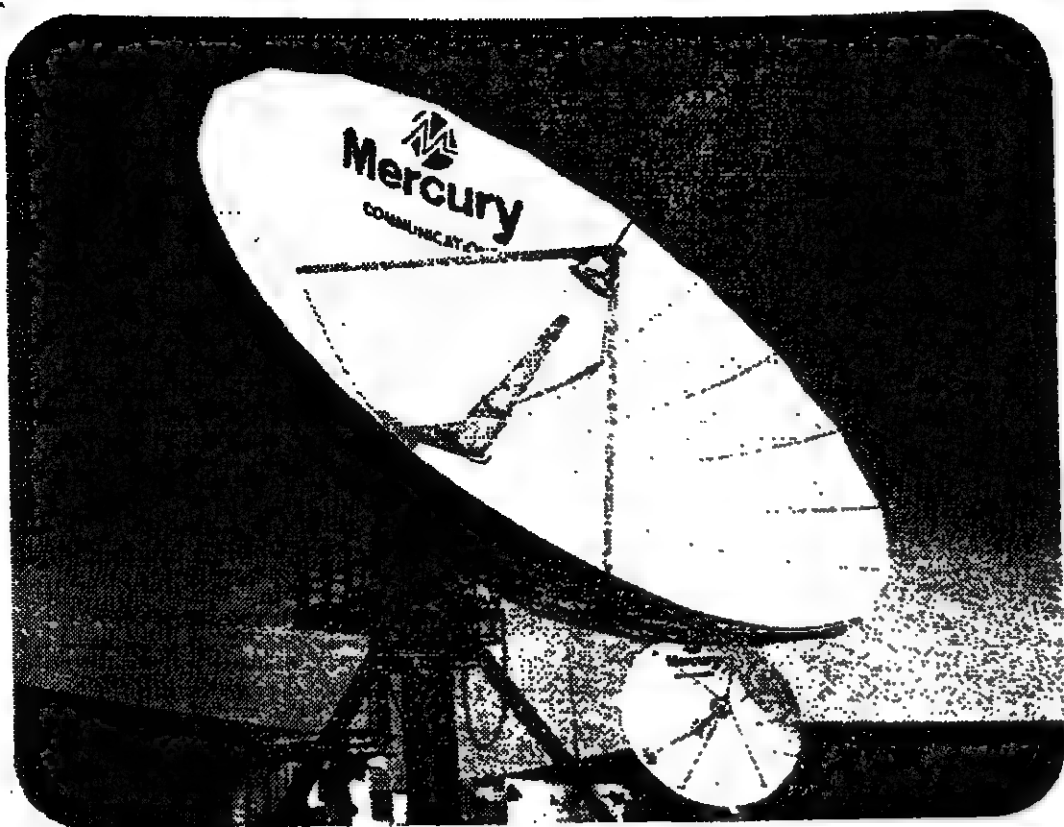
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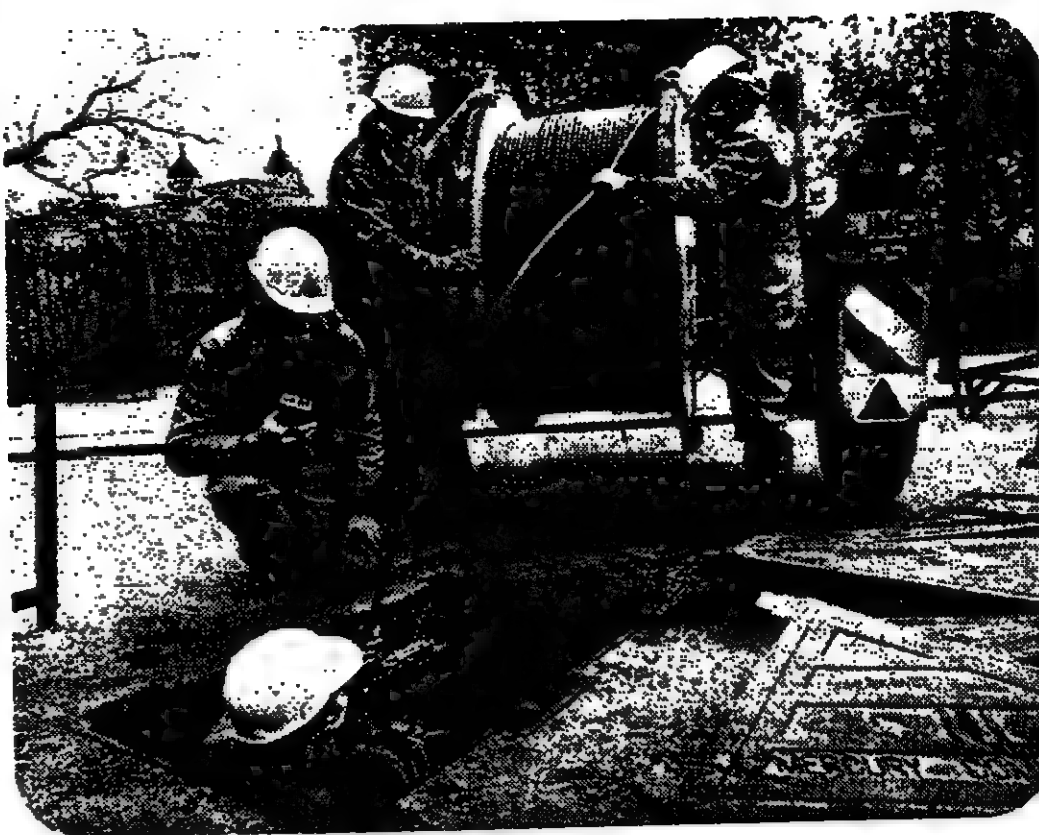


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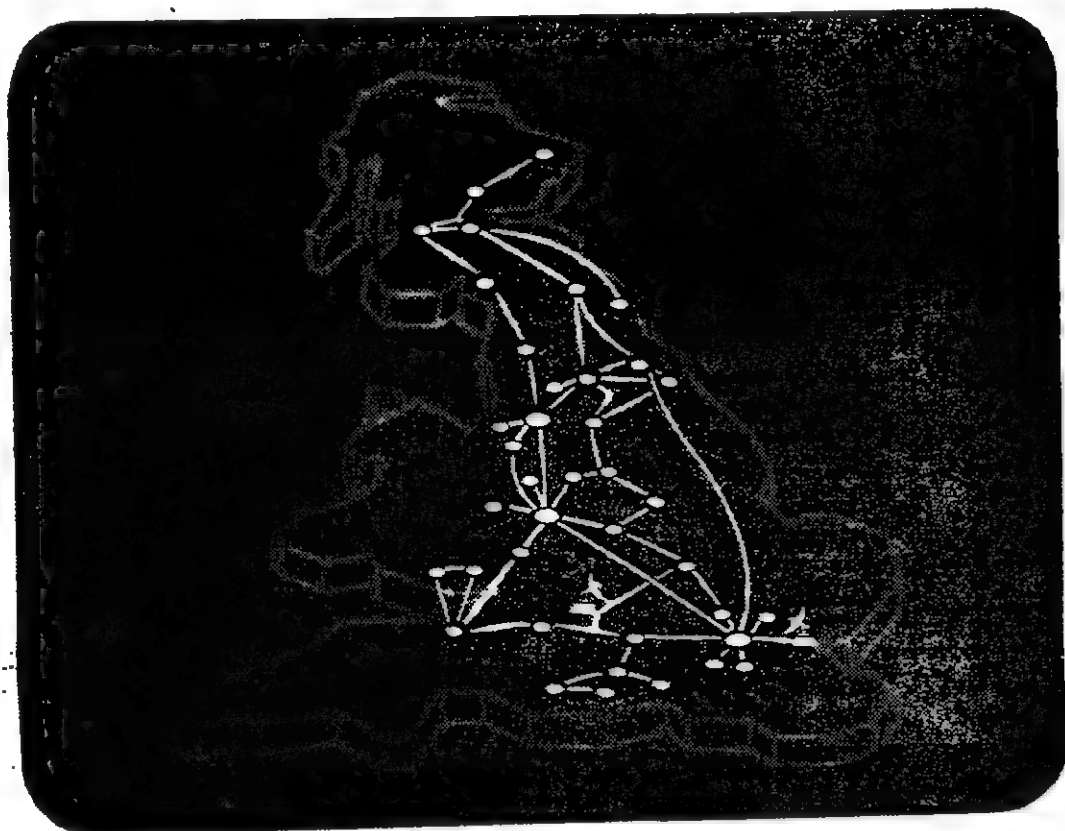
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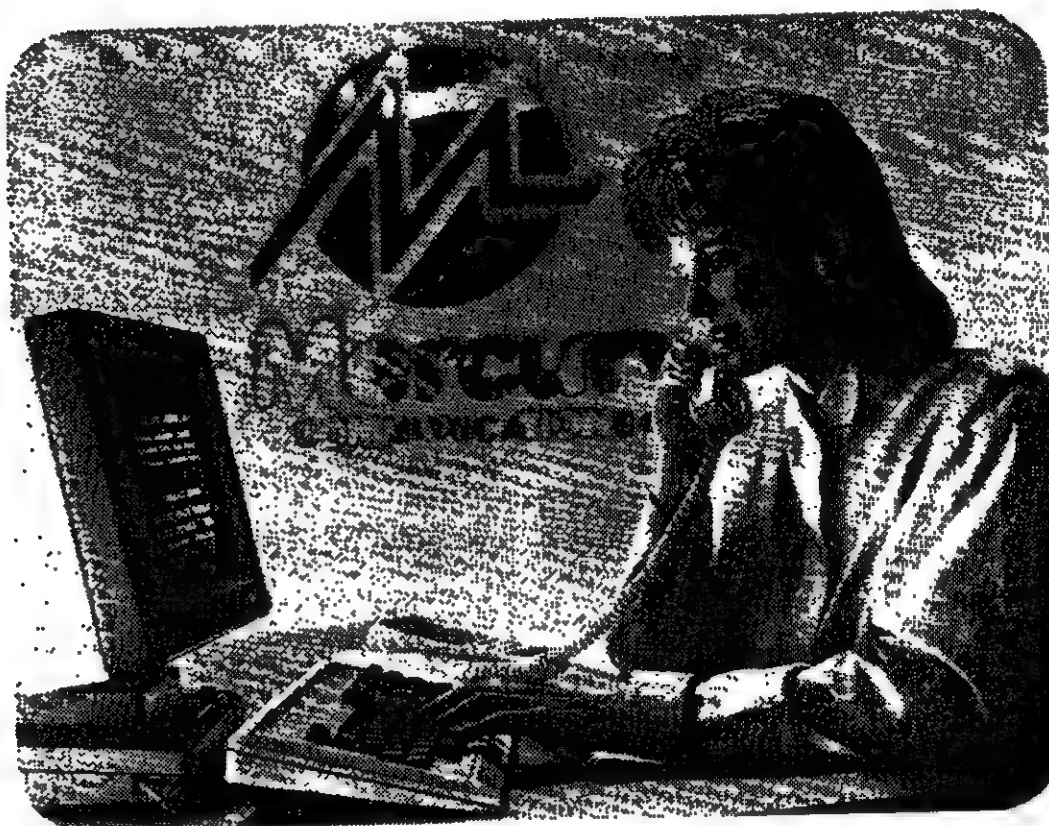
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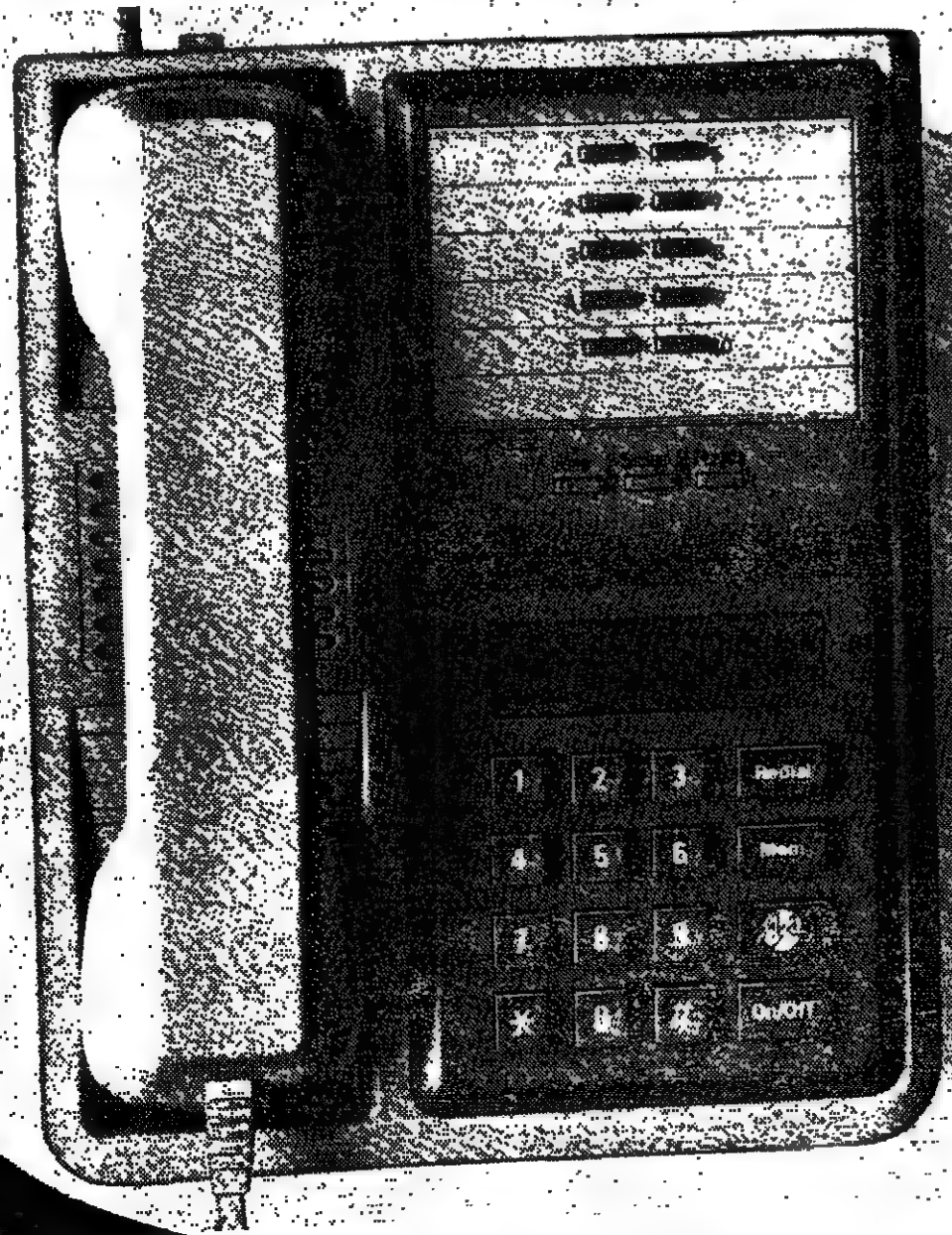
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**Compiled by Peter Dear
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VARIATIONS

[illegible]**TELEVISION CHOICE**

Angela, Douch Shmoum off for a second season, and Tom (Nigel Havers) announces his forthcoming marriage to his dad's secretary Madeline. But experienced sitcom watchers will know this is nothing but bluff. Should Toby and Tom return to the married state there will be a serious letdown, like the Stephenie Havers debacle, but fundamentally they need each other. So expect Layton to string things out for a while longer, at least until the show reaches its final episode. Meanwhile sit back and continue to enjoy the engaging charm and polished playing of Brynno and Havers, and Angela's ability to produce a consistent flow of painless humour from the two timeless comic strategies of embarrassment and misunderstanding.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

● In an irresistibly attractive edition of *Down Your Way* (Radio 4, 11.00am), recorded in the Suffolk seaside town of Southwold, master of wine and food criticism rhapsodist John Peel much over the sort of famous triangular butter buses that I feared she would not have enough enthusiasm left for the 1986 Côte du Rhône (that is the speciality of the local wine warehouse or for nearby Blythburgh church where the vicar is *slimming* to play Christ in a Mystery play) or for the prep school whose head takes pupils on a mid-*night* touch-a-lombstone race around a churchyard. No need to worry though. Miss Robinson's well of affection for Southwold is bottomless.

● Granted that nothing can equal the genuine experience of a night at the Glyndebourne opera, there is an interesting approximation tonight that might like to try. And it won't cost you a penny after all. Most you need is champagne, lobster or cold chicken, some operationally sympathetic friends, a clement evening for you to sit in the garden – and a radio set. You quaff and munch before the curtain goes

RADIO CHOICE




Jancis Robinson: Rhapsody on a resort (K4, 11.00am)

up, and in the interval. But the make-believe doesn't end there. You must also forget that acts one and two of Janacek's *Katya Kabanova* (Radio 3, 7.30pm) were recorded earlier in the evening. No such problem arises with act three because this goes out live, so the illusion of being there is complete.

Peter Davalle

CHANNEL 4



in the hot seat: Comic Stephen Fry reveals all in Room 113 (C4, 12.10am)

00 Brookside, in Shrewsbury Anna and Brian Collins get closer together; in Liverpool, Christopher and Gordon are followed by a gang when they leave a club; and Arthur is pushed into putting the question of women's membership to the club at the top of the next committee meeting's agenda. (Oracle)

30 Prime Time Harvest (1981) starring Ron Howard and Art Carney. A made-for-television drama, based on fact, about a young dairy farmer's efforts to discover what is killing-off his herd and affecting his infant daughter. His investigations meet with non co-operation from state agriculture officials. Directed by Roger Young.

18 Go Fishing. Part five of the six-programme series in which Norfolk angler and writer John Wilson illustrates the joys of coarse angling. Tonight he fishes for roach on a 30-acre lake, a tidal river and a tiny stream. (Oracle)

50 The Elbowtree House E Etc. An experimental piece made by filmmaker David Leachner (r).

10pm Network 7. A repeat of yesterday's programme which included a feature on the Harlem Globetrotters and an interview with Stephen Fry. Ends at 2.10.

[illegible]

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Radio

Nancy Gustafson: Live from Glyndebourne (R3, 7.30p)
5.55 Weather, News headlines
6.55 Morning Concert: Vivaldi (Concerto in F for recorder and strings, RV 442; Orchestra of the 18th Century under Frans Bruggen); Purcell (Suits No 6 in D; Kenneth Gilbert, harpsichord); Handel (Concerto Grosso in G, Op 6 No 1; English Concert under Elmgelt)

and

Karlisle: Gothenburg SO
under Jervic: Chopin
Fantasy on Polish Airs;
Piano: Armenia under
Karlisle; with Michele
Dichter, piano; Ekay (The
Swimmer: LSO under
Barbieri with Janet Baker
mezzo; Mozart (Symphony
No. 40, K 551) with
Concertgebouw Orchestra
under Harnoncourt

8.30 News

8.35 Composers of the Week:
Telemann: the last decade
of his life; Suite below
from Don Quixote; Berlin
Academy for Ancient Music
Domenico: English
Chamber Orchestra under
Joly with Gábor Fehér
violin; American below
(mezzo-soprano) Marilyn H
(mezzo) Stephen Roberts ar
Richard Jackson (basses)

8.38 Mozart and Copland: Einstein
Grunenberg (violin) and John
Miles (piano)
Mozart's Sonata in E flat (K
481) and Copland's Sonata

10.20 Russian liturgical Music:
BBC Singers under John
Pople perform
Rachmaninov's Three
Anthems from Library of St
John Chrysostom, Op 51;
and Tchaikovsky's Four
Anthems (sung in Russian)

10.55 The 1987-88 US Match
Stephen Ball by bus
contemporary. Until 8.55

10.55 C P E Bach and Krommer
Netherlands Wind Ensemble
play Bach's Five Marches
for wind instruments, and
Krommer's Paritta in E flat
Op 69

11.20 BBC Philharmonic Concert
György Ligeti conducts
Mozart (Symphony No 3
E flat, K 543); Mussorgsky
(Songs and Dances of
Death); and Brahms
(Symphony No 2 in D).

includes 12.10 Interval
 1.00 News
 1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert
 Live from St John's, Smith
 Square, London. Salvatore
 Accardo (violin) and Bruce
 Canino (piano) play
 Beethoven's Sonata in F
 Op 24, Spring; and
 Prokofiev's Sonata No 2
 D, Op 94s
 2.00 Music Weekly (7)

3.30 Orchestra: Louis Frenkel conducts Milhaud's *La Carmélite* of Aix and Debussy's *La Mer*. With Peter Lawson (piano). Bach: Goldberg Variations. Stanislav Heller (harpsichord) plays Variations 1-30. Includes 4:10 interval reading.

5.00 Mainly for Pleasure: Brian Kay with a bouquet of 80 music.

7.00 Christopher Herrick plays
Bourgeois's *Serenade*, Op.
22, and *Variations on a
Theme by Herbert Howells*,
Op. 87; and Lemare's
*Concert Fantasia on the
Savior's Hymn*, British
Griegs, and *Rite of
Britannia*, Op. 91

Lennart's production of Janacek's opera for Glyndebourne (sung in Czech). With the London Philharmonic Orchestra under Andrew Davis, and Nancy Gustafson (soprano) in the title role. Includes 2.45 Andrew Davis talking with Stephen Johnson about the production (see Choice)

10.15 Mozart: Christopher Kile plays Sonata in A minor (310) and Sonata in A (K 331) on a Viennese fortepiano by Johann Fritsch

1.15 (long wave) (s) Stereo on
5.50 Shipping Forecast
6.00 News Briefing: Weather
6.10 Farming Today
6.30 Prayer for the Day
6.30 Today: Presented by Pat
 Hobbay and John
 Humphrys, incl 6.30, 7.
6.30 News Summary
6.45 Business News
6.50 Weather
7.00, 8.00 News
7.25, 8.25 Sport
7.45 Thought for the Day

Cass previews the week's programmes
8.42 **Fil Smith: A search for Superman in the BBC Sound Archives** **8.57** **Weather: Travel**
9.00 **News**
9.05 **Start the Week: Michael Parkinson's guests include writer Jill Cooper, songwriter Tim Rice, and comedian Billy Connolly**
10.00 **News: Money Box: with**

10.30 Morning Story: A waitress called Florence by Hildegarda Wright. Read Tim Reynolds

10.45 Daily Service: From the Chapel of Dean Close School, Cheltenham (s)

11.00 News: Travel; Down Your Way with Janis Robins in Southwold, East Suffolk (see Choice) (r)

11.50 Poetry Please! Presented by Charles Tomlinson. W

12.00 Diana Bishop
12.00 News: You and Yours with
Dabbe Thwaiter
12.25 Brain of Britain 1988:
Robert Robinson chairs a
nationwide general
knowledge quiz. First round
North (s) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One:
Presented by Brian Widdows
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.35
Shipping Forecast
News: 1.40 News: 1.40

includes two writers discussing the effect living in a remote area of Canada has on their work. Julia Neuberger on a trust set to finance equal pay cases brought by women who would otherwise be unable to afford the legal costs

3.00 **New: I Do Not Like This Dr Felt: Play by Bernard Farrell (a) (r)**

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105
Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz
247m; VHF 90-92.5. Radio 4: 15
261m; VHF 97.3. Capital: 1548
1458kHz/200m; VHF 94.9; Wom

3.00 PM: Presented by Vale Singleton and Bill Frost
5.50 Shipping Forecast
6.55 Weather
6.00 News; Financial Report
6.30 The News Quiz: Barry hosts the humorous quiz based on the week's news with Richard Ingrams, Corin, Victoria Mather, Frances Coverdale (s)
7.00 News
7.55 The Archers

7.15 Derek Cooper reports
The Rowett Research
Institute in Aberdeen,
Britain's first national
nutrition centre (r)

7.45 Science on 4: Peter Eve
with the latest scientific
developments (r)

8.15 Ceremony of Innocence
Play by Les Gallagher
a young Jewess and a
down-at-heel journalist
find refuge and love in

9.45 Kaleidoscope: Includes discussion between Bill Mooney and Kate Figg about the future of fem book publishing; plus reviews of the Beryl Corbett retrospective at Plymouth Art Gallery, and the Welsh National Opera's production of *La Traviata*; and a feature on Light Fingered Gentle

12.15 Royal Festival Hall
A Book at Bedtime:
Riceyman Steps by Ann
Bennett (6 of 15). Read
Martin Jarvis (r) **10.29**
Weather
10.30 The World Tonight:
Presented by Richard
Kershaw
11.15 The Financial World To
11.30 Today in Parliament
11.45 The Pied Piper of Hamelin
by Robert Spence, read

12.00 News 12.20 Weather
 12.33 Shipping Forecast
 VHF as above except 11.00
 12.00 For Schools 11.00
 Introducing Science Extra 11.55
 Let's Move! 11.40 The Music
 11.50 See For Yourself 1.55
 3.00pm For Schools. 1.55
 Listening Corner 2.05 Playtime
 2.20 Science Scope 2.40
 Whiffing 5.50-5.55 PM
 (continued) 11.30 Open University

11.30 Open Forum 11.30-8.00
— an Enlightenment Scientist
12.10 Music Interlude 12.10
1.10 Schools Night-Time.
Business and Practical French

100

SECRET

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UK denies cash offer to Iran for hostages

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Two ministers yesterday denied that a £1.8 million compensation offer the British Government has made to Iran for damage to its embassy in London was part of a deal to free British hostages in Beirut. But the denials also carried an insight into the Government's approach to the hostage problem. Instead of trying to negotiate their release, the plan is to improve relations with Iran and see where it leads. The key phrase "from an acorn grows an oak", used in a radio interview by Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, showed the direction of Government thinking.

Both Mr Mellor and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, insisted in separate interviews that there was no change in Britain's policy of refusing to make deals. The offer to pay the estimated cost of rebuilding the Iranian Embassy, gutted by fire when the SAS stormed it in 1980 to release hostages, was made in May last year. At the time relations were too tense for talks to be held, but there have been earlier rounds of face-to-face negotiations in 1984, 1985 and 1986.

Now after what amounts to a cooling-off period, an Iranian delegation is to meet Foreign Office officials in London on Wednesday. The British offer is part of a package deal which also covers a British demand for £900,000 compensation for damage to diplomatic property in Tehran during and after the Iranian revolution of 1979.

Sir Geoffrey said that he had nothing to do with efforts to obtain the release of British hostages believed to be held by groups in Beirut over which Iran has influence.

Mr Mellor angrily dismissed as "absolute rubbish" a suggestion by a Labour MP that the Government could be following the example of France. Although M Jacques

Chirac, then Prime Minister, denied any ransom was paid for the three hostages, their release last month coincided with an agreement to restore Franco-Iranian links.

The French and British situations are different because Britain did not break off relations with Iran during a row last year over the arrest and beating-up of a British diplomat in Tehran. Instead they were "mothballed".

Iran is said to be keen to restore normal links. There has been speculation this is its

Britain's offer to Iran:

● To pay Tehran £1.8 million to repair its Embassy in London. The figure is based on Property Services Agency estimates.

● Government to pay Westminster City Council £200,000 for work to make the damaged building safe.

● Tehran to pay the British Government £900,000 for damage to buildings in British Embassy compound in Tehran, British Council buildings in several Iranian cities and other British government property, including a car.

price for using its influence with Hezbollah, which is believed to be holding Mr Terry Waite, Mr John McCarthy and Mr Brian Keenan.

Mr Mellor yesterday repeated the British argument that any government which has influence with hostage-takers should use it without asking anything in return.

He was asked on the BBC Radio 4 programme *The World This Week* to explain why the Foreign Office had described suggestions of a link between the two issues as "preposterous". He said the word was used "in the context of the suggestion that these low-level discussions are somehow a cover for negotiations of the kind that it is suggested one or two other European governments got involved in."

Assad pledge to US

Washington (AFP) — President Assad of Syria has assured the United States of his help in winning the release of US hostages held in Lebanon, Mr Vernon Walters, US Ambassador to the United Nations, said at the weekend. Mr Walters, returning to the United States after his fifth trip to Syria to discuss the hostage situation, said President Assad had told him: "I can confirm that I will do everything I can to return the hostages to you safely."

The Ambassador also said he did not believe the 17 foreign hostages held in Leba-

non had been in great danger during recent fighting between the Iranian-backed Hezbollah militia and other Shia Muslim factions.

"The people that are holding (the hostages) know that they are a pretty precious commodity and I would think (they) would tend to keep them safe," Mr Walters said in an interview with Cable News Network.

Mr Walters said his talks with the Syrian leader had given him hope because President Assad seemed to understand the importance of releasing the hostages.

Leadership candidate on sticky wicket



Off duty: Mr Alan Beith, at the wicket in a game of family cricket, takes a respite from the contest for the leadership of the Social and Liberal Democrats, apparently unconcerned by an opinion poll suggesting that his rival, Mr Paddy Ashdown, is heading for a landslide victory.

Mr Beith, MP for Berwick-upon-Tweed, was relaxing with his wife

Barbara and his two children, Christopher, aged 11, and Caroline, aged eight, at Ingram Valley, in the Northumberland National Park, a few miles from his home in Whitby.

According to a MORI poll for Times Newspapers, Mr Beith is trailing Mr Ashdown by 9 per cent to 47 per cent among SLD supporters.

Mr Beith received less support in the poll than Mr Robert MacLennan, the present joint leader of the party.

With all the signs that the contest has become a straight personality battle between Mr Ashdown and Mr Beith, the Beith camp was expressing confidence that his support will rise sharply during the eight-week campaign.

It was also stressed that Mr Beith's support was likely to be stronger among the party membership, who will cast the votes in the contest, than among the general public.

Mr Beith is not unhappy to start as the underdog and believes the gap will soon narrow.

(Photograph by Bryn Colton).

68 killed in Soviet disaster

Continued from page 1

"They were scattered like fluff," he explained. The disaster was the worst Soviet rail accident since 106 people were killed in a train crash last August in the southern Russian coal-mining town of Kamensk-Shakhtinsky, but then it took nearly five months before the death toll was revealed.

Yesterday, Tass reported that three freight wagons with an aggregate capacity of 120 tonnes had been blasted into the air when the accident occurred. The train was carrying industrial explosives for use in geology, mining, and construction.

The blast in Arzamas brought down part of the station and set fire to wooden houses near to the 164-ft wide crater. In addition to the buildings destroyed, some 250 more were damaged and 600 Soviet families left homeless.

The windows of the town's Communist Party headquarters, situated 1½ miles away, were blown out and damage was caused to both a gas pipeline and a transport facility in the town. A 230-bed field hospital was set up on the spot, with surgeons airlifted in from Moscow and Gorky.

Western experts said last night that Soviet industry was notorious for its poor safety record. But it was not clear exactly why the blast had occurred. The 14-man investigating commission included officials from the Soviet Defence, Interior and Health Ministries.

Mr Vederikov said that the local population had been arriving at the disaster scene to donate blood to the injured.

Income tax reforms 'critical'

Lawson on target for 20p

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Tax reforms were changing the "very culture" of Britain and the effects would continue for many years, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, says today.

He says the Treasury was not working on any further reductions in the top rate of income tax of 40p in the pound, probably for the lifetime of this Parliament. However, it would devote its efforts to the achievement of the new target for the basic rate of 20p in the pound.

In a summing up of the tax achievements of his and Sir Geoffrey Howe's chancellorships, Mr Lawson adds to speculation that he could soon be moving from his present post.

He stresses the role of tax reform in improving economic performance. "Pretty well everywhere you go, tax reform is now seen as an essential, although difficult, instrument for improving economic performance. And it has played a critically important part in Britain's economic renaissance."

He says in a pamphlet,

Tax Reform - the Government's Record, published today by the Conservative Political Centre: "Economic policies take years, often generations, to have their full effects. And tax reform, like other reforms we have introduced, is in the end about changing the very culture of this country. There can be no doubt that this is happening, and will continue for years to come."

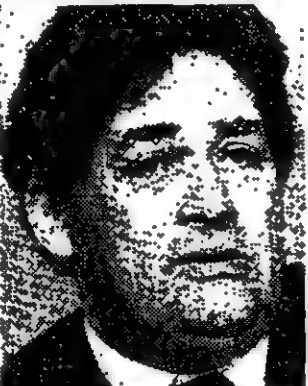
"We have brought the top rate down to 40p in the pound, which most people will regard

as reasonable. So for the first time in our adult lives, Britain is a low-tax country."

"People will take time to adjust, but it is fair to expect that the tax system will gradually recover the legitimacy of which it was deprived during a period when it was hijacked by the social engineers. And that will be a momentous change."

Mr Lawson says there has been a decisive shift in the way in which companies are taxed, from taxes on employment to taxes on profits. There has also been a reduction of 4.5 percentage points in the proportion of total tax and national insurance accounted for by employers' national insurance payments, balanced by a similar increase in the proportion derived from corporation tax.

For individuals, the tax burden has been shifted from income to spending, with the revenue from income tax down by 8.5 percentage points as a share of total tax and national insurance receipts, and the revenue from VAT up by 7 percentage points.



Mr Lawson: Tax reforms critical to Britain

Fears on solo trip

Continued from page 1

time at sea by a woman, and the greatest distance at sea by a woman. She is also the first woman to sail alone around the five main capes in the southern hemisphere.

For her welcome there was a reunion with her parents and boyfriend. The Royal Australian Navy band played *Walking Maids*.

But there was bitter disappointment when she learnt that her achievement was so far raised only £16,000 for charity to help fight drug addiction among young people. "That's very disappointing," she said.

Later, at a news conference, Miss Cottee spoke of her fear when on three occasions she thought she would die. The first was near Cape Horn when mountainous seas swamped the boat and the boom broke. The second was when a sudden squall in the Indian Ocean turned the yacht on its side. The third was when she awoke to see a merchant ship bearing down on her. She fired a flare just in time for the skipper to change course.

Air delays build up for holidaymakers

Continued from page 1

Aircraft returning to Britain from across the Continent were affected by the jam on the tarmac. Paris was one of the worst airports with dozens of blankets being taken out of cupboards, where they had been placed since the last time air traffic controllers struck. Airport officials were preparing for the impromptu campers by putting out 850 extra chairs, handing out bedding on request and opening cafes and restaurants round the clock. Extra supplies of food was being drafted in.

Luton Airport, which handles huge numbers of holiday flights during the summer, reported three-hour delays on Spanish flights and Glasgow Airport sent stranded passengers to the nearby Excelsior Hotel for breakfast yesterday. One flight was grounded for 18 hours.

At Manchester, however, a spokesman said: "On the whole their spirit has been tremendous. Last night about 5,000 people were here and there were no major problems. We anticipate further chaos

tonight, because of the snow-ball effect of the delays. But we can't tell passengers not to report to the airport on time, because some flights are leaving after only relatively short delays."

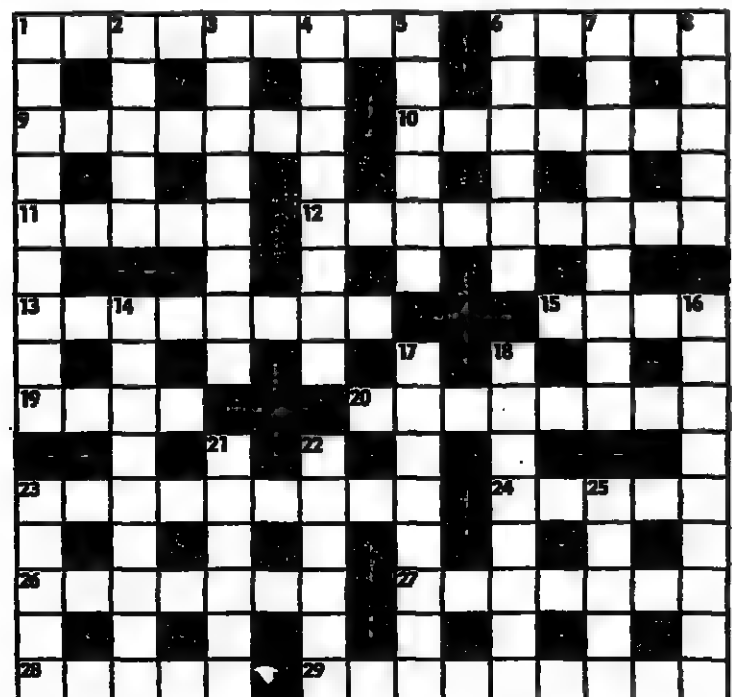
"It couldn't come at a worse time for us though - Friday, Saturday and Sunday are the peak periods for travel to Spanish destinations."

Mrs Winifred Harrison, aged 60, of Droylsden, Greater Manchester, who faced a delay of at least 11 hours on her flight to Ibiza, said: "It has cost me £32 in airport charges. I only hope I won't be telling friends I had a lovely time at Manchester Airport in two weeks time."

Another passenger bound for Spain, Mr John Williams, 36, of Greasby, Wirral, Merseyside said: "I've sent my family home - you can't keep children here for 12 hours. They'd go mad and so would everyone else."

Flow control was introduced in Britain last year. The system is designed to ensure that planes make straight, safe flights. It does not rule out stacking,

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,688



ACROSS

- 1 Excitement as tension explodes (9)
- 6 Being amusing, it dispels gloom (5)
- 9 About to cut a prison stretch (7)
- 10 Check, blow up, and fire a lot (7)
- 11 A Belgian university subject (5)
- 12 Given tranquility, a bull in a frenzy lies captured (9)
- 13 The diversion of profits (8)
- 14 A highlight of the night that's clear (4)
- 19 Romance found in retirement in Israel (4)
- 20 A sign of distress brings rent reduction (8)
- 23 Talk the underworld way (9)
- 24 Humble woman embracing a Mohammedan leader (5)
- 26 Pole, having to fly, packing (7)
- 27 A people backing one could be a bloomer (7)
- 28 It's an odd sort of stuff (5)
- 29 Patient attention expected from 2 dn (9)

DOWN

- 1 Working steam-mill of no great importance (5-4)
- 2 She tends to rush over certain points (5)
- 3 "Hell is full of musical" - music is the brandy of the damned (Shaw) (8)
- 4 Thought the holy man about 51 a visionary (8)
- 5 A head with totally unsatisfactory delivery (2-4)
- 6 God against Russell's view of ghosts (6)
- 7 Trial - a dog's involved, a fighter (9)
- 8 Some actresses do their own hair (5)
- 14 Convey delight (9)
- 16 Substitute for military personnel now (9)
- 17 Refuse to put a philosopher in jug? Quite the reverse! (8)
- 18 The outlook for a class of people going about quietly (8)
- 21 A moving proposal (6)
- 22 Clever bishop, on the conservative side (6)
- 23 Bearing in some animals, administrator medication (5)
- 25 A sound opener to admire (5)

Concise crossword, page 22

Computer versions of past Times crosswords in volume form are now available at prices ranging from £11.95 to £16.95. Enquiries for BBC software to P.R.E.S. Ltd., telephone 0276 72046; for Amstrad and other systems, ring Akam Ltd., telephone 01 521 4575 after 4.0 pm.

WEATHER

Many eastern and south-eastern areas of England will have a dry bright day with some sunshine, reasonably warm by afternoon. Thickening cloud and outbreaks of rain already affecting Northern Ireland and the far west of Scotland will spread eastwards during the day. By late afternoon rain is likely to reach all but the far north-east of Scotland, Wales, and parts of western England. There will be fog on hills and some coasts. Becoming breezy in some northern areas. Outlook: rather unsettled.

ABROAD

MONDAY: 1=London; 2=London; 3=Paris; 4=Paris; 5=Paris; 6=Paris; 7=Paris; 8=Paris; 9=Paris; 10=Paris; 11=Paris; 12=Paris; 13=Paris; 14=Paris; 15=Paris; 16=Paris; 17=Paris; 18=Paris; 19=Paris; 20=Paris; 21=Paris; 22=Paris; 23=Paris; 24=Paris; 25=Paris; 26=Paris; 27=Paris; 28=Paris; 29=Paris; 30=Paris; 31=Paris; 32=Paris; 33=Paris; 34=Paris; 35=Paris; 36=Paris; 37=Paris; 38=Paris; 39=Paris; 40=Paris; 41=Paris; 42=Paris; 43=Paris; 44=Paris; 45=Paris; 46=Paris; 47=Paris; 48=Paris; 49=Paris; 50=Paris; 51=Paris; 52=Paris; 53=Paris; 54=Paris; 55=Paris; 56=Paris; 57=Paris; 58=Paris; 59=Paris; 60=Paris; 61=Paris; 62=Paris; 63=Paris; 64=Paris; 65=Paris; 66=Paris; 67=Paris; 68=Paris; 69=Paris; 70=Paris; 71=Paris; 72=Paris; 73=Paris; 74=Paris; 75=Paris; 76=Paris; 77=Paris; 78=Paris; 79=Paris; 80=Paris; 81=Paris; 82=Paris; 83=Paris; 84=Paris; 85=Paris; 86=Paris; 87=Paris; 88=Paris; 89=Paris; 90=Paris; 91=Paris; 92=Paris; 93=Paris; 94=Paris; 95=Paris; 96=Paris; 97=Paris; 98=Paris; 99=Paris; 100=Paris; 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MONDAY JUNE 6 1988

CHANGE ON WEEK	
FT 30 Share	1444.4 (+14.4)
US dollar	1.8000 (-0.0570)
FT-SE 100	1819.2 (+35.5)
W German mark	3.1059 (-0.0798)
USM (Datastream)	155.73 (+1.54)
Trade-weighted	76.2 (-2.0)

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

US NOTEBOOK

Economy
nearing
turning
point

From Maxwell Newton
New York

Chaos in the US employment figures have reached a point where the Department of Labour economists themselves are expressing bewilderment. One leading set of statistics shows non-agricultural employment rising by 749,000 between February and May; the other says non-agricultural employment has fallen by 23,000 in the same period.

The bond market in its heart of hearts believes the latter.

The payroll service numbers, on which the financial markets characteristically focus in the monthly Friday morning heart-stoppers, show a revised increase of 1,477 million (1.4 per cent) in non-agricultural employment in the first five months of 1988.

But a different sampling method, the Household Survey, shows non-agricultural employment rising only 631,000 (0.6 per cent) in the first five months.

By May, the Household Survey numbers (on which the unemployment rate is based) showed a fall to a level actually below February's in both total and non-agricultural employment.

The picture obtained from the May Household Survey, of rising unemployment and falling employment, helps to make more sense of the retail sales reports, which indicate declining sales volume by department stores in 1988.

Real personal consumption spending is slowing to zero, as are housing and government spending in real terms.

As these trends gain momentum, the dollar is stabilising and even showing strength against some currencies.

In the past month, the mark has fallen 4.6 per cent against the dollar; the pound 4.4 per cent and even the yen has fallen 1.7 per cent.

None of these beneficial trends has affected popular thinking in the financial market, where inflation hysteria is still rampant.

Source of most of this is the rise in the Commodity Research Bureau index of commodity futures, which is directly related to the lack of rain in the grain and soybean growing areas of the US — perhaps a good enough reason for adjusting one's 30-year investment perspective.

Another cause of inflation hysteria has been the rise of 4 per cent in consumer prices of clothing, mainly in women's wear, as measured by the Bureau of Labour Statistics, in March and April.

Yet retail stores now report that conditions in women's clothing are dreadful and that price cutting of 50 per cent is rampant.

As these facts filter back to the financial markets, the tone of bond and share prices has begun to improve.

In the two weeks to Friday, the price of the 30-year US cash bond rose more than 1½ points. The September T-Bond contract has already risen from 84½ to 85 on Friday, May 20, to 87 last Friday.

Important trends in spending, employment and the dollar are saying with increasing emphasis that a turning point for the US is approaching — or is happening as we watch.

THE TIMES

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● Details, page 27

Watchdog insists on Aus\$860m offer

Bond ordered
to bid for Bell

From Richard Battley, Sydney

Australia's corporate watchdog, the National Companies and Securities Commission (NCSC), is forcing the Bond Corporation to make an Aus\$860 million (£375 million) bid for Bell Group, Mr Robert Holmes a Court's beleaguered flagship.

Mr Alan Bond, head of Bond Corporation, who recently bought a 19.9 per cent stake for Aus\$172 million, agreed to the NCSC-imposed pact to avoid a possible "unacceptable conduct" declaration by the regulatory body.

Such a declaration would have resulted in the purchase being declared void and the shares confiscated and subsequently sold.

Mr Ray Schoer, the NCSC executive director, said last night that the Aus\$2.70-a-share cash bid — the shares closed at Aus\$2.10 on Friday — was part of the terms of settlement whereby the NCSC would discontinue its hearing into Bell share dealings.

The in-camera inquiry, which began on May 23, was

investigating the sale of separate stakes of 19.9 per cent of Bell Group by Mr Holmes a Court to Bond and the State Government Insurance Commission (SGIC), a West Australian public body.

It was seeking to establish whether Bond and the SGIC had acted in concert. If this were deemed so, a full takeover offer would be mandatory. An NCSC statement yesterday said the inquiry had formed the "tentative view" that there "might have been some understanding" between Bond and the SGIC in relation to future control of Bell.

This was rejected by the buyers. A Bond statement said: "Bond Corp and the SGIC deny that the contact between the parties was other than that permitted by law."

Mr Holmes a Court welcomed the "resolution".

"Bond Corp has acted properly with me from the earliest stages of negotiations, culminating in the proposed offer," he said. "This offer was inevitable."

When asked how "inevitable" the offer would have

been had there not been an NCSC inquiry, he said: "I repeat, the offer was inevitable."

Significantly, the NCSC has agreed that Bond's bid will exclude the SGIC.

The SGIC has undertaken further not to sell its shareholding before October 6. Bond's takeover should have been completed by then.

However, the SGIC has a six-month agreement with Bond, effectively underwriting the price of Aus\$2.70 a share for its stake, plus holding costs. It said this would result in a profit of Aus\$13 million.

Meanwhile, Sir Ron Brierley and Mr Kerry Packer last night conceded that the NCSC-imposed solution to the Bell saga had scuppered their Aus\$1.03 billion bid for Bell Resources, a Bell Group associate.

Mr Rodney Price, the chief executive of Sir Ron's Industrial Equity Limited, said: "If Bond gets control of Bell Group, and at Aus\$2.70 I can't believe he won't, I would say we are out of the game."



Players in the Bell battle: Alan Bond and, below from left, Kerry Packer, Robert Holmes a Court and Sir Ron Brierley



FKI may
float US
businesses

By Our City Staff

FKI Babcock, formed last summer from the merger of FKI Electricals and Babcock International, is considering floating its American businesses — which have annual sales of \$750 million (£417 million) — on the New York stock market to perk up the company's unexciting rating.

A flotation may take place next January with 10 per cent of the business being sold.

FKI wants to continue making acquisitions, but its rating means it can use only cash. Its shares at 122p are on 7½ times prospective earnings.

FKI has an objective of boosting earnings per share by 25 per cent a year. That is easily achievable this year through benefits from the rationalization of Babcock, but it will be harder in future without acquisitions.

Mr Tony Gartland, the chief executive, said last week that the company was growing organically by 10 per cent a year.

FKI Babcock is also believed to be examining other options, including a flotation for the company's British manufacturing interests and a management buyout.

'Early rise' in base rate

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England is set to signal an early rise in base rates if sterling resumes the downward trend established last week.

Dealers and analysts are convinced that the Bank will act quickly to avoid conveying the impression that the Government has relaxed its anti-inflationary stance.

Although general expectations are for a half-point rise in base rates to steady sterling, economists at Greenwell Montagu, the gilt-edged market-maker, say that an increase of at least 1 per cent could be needed if the pound does not stabilize.

"With an overhang of nervous holders, a policy of raising base rates by half a point relatively soon after sterling began to come off was an invitation for the slide to continue," said Mr Robert Thomas, the director of bond research at Greenwell Montagu.

"Only a large rise in base rates can lead nervous currency holders to question selling."

No low mark

Herr Karl Otto Pöhl, the West German Bundesbank president, yesterday made it clear that his bank was not interested in a stronger dollar and lower mark.

In a radio interview, Herr Pöhl said a strong mark was an important factor in maintaining economic stability in Germany, as well as keeping a balance within the European Monetary System.

Expectations are that they will be raised from 8 to 8.5 per cent if there is a sustained fall below DM3.10.

In addition, the dollar's recovery means that, in overall terms, the pound is already weaker than when base rates were last at 8.5 per cent. On the eve of the March 17 reduction, when base rates were cut from 9 per cent to 8.5 per cent, the sterling index stood at 77.4, compared with a level of 76.2 on Friday.

"The problem for the authorities is that the current

situation could create a speculator's paradise, with a self-feeding momentum in sterling developing on the downside as a mirror image of the last couple of months," said Mr Peter Fejner, economist at James Capel, the broker.

He suggested that this could mean allowing sterling to fall further, possibly to DM3.05, before the Bank stepped in with a full percentage point rise in base rates.

The issue is complicated by the fact that some analysts see sterling's current weakness as being only temporary, implying that too dramatic a response by the Bank could recreate the dilemma of an excessively strong pound.

Economists at Goldman Sachs, the securities house, expect the pound to move back into the DM3.15-3.20 range and believe that the foreign exchange markets over-reacted to the first quarter West German gross national product figures, published last week, which suggested a strong performance by the German economy.

Report scrutinizes Salomon link

The man from Salomon Brothers, the US investment bank, was cited for special attention by the National Companies and Securities Commission in its 11-page report on the Bell saga.

The NCSC said Mr Trevor Rowe, head of the bank's Australian operations, had received a phone call from Mr Alan Bond at Sydney airport on April 26 as he was about to fly to Manila. Mr Bond said he had been retained by the State

Government Insurance Commission to evaluate a parcel of Bell shares it proposed buying.

He asked Mr Rowe to fly to Perth instead, where he was taken to the offices of Mr Bond's family company, Dailhold Limited.

"At Dailhold," the NCSC report said, "Rowe met Bond, Alec Vrisarikis (an adviser to the NCSC) and (Bond Corp director Peter) Mitchell."

"Bond approved Mitchell

giving Rowe analytical material in relation to the valuation of Bell Group shares and convertible bonds, which material Mitchell provided to assist him in the task of advising SGIC."

Both Mr Bond and Mr Wyvern Rees, SGIC chairman, have insisted that the purchase of a 19.9 per cent stake each in Bell was transacted independently. They denied it was in concert.

BAT and Farmers clash over
validity of shareholders' vote

By Alison Eadie

The tempo has risen in the \$4.5 billion (£2.5 billion) bid by BAT Industries for Farmers Group, the Los Angeles insurer, after a clash over the interpretation of a vote by Farmers shareholders and revelations of payments by Farmers to firms connected with its directors.

A vote by Farmers shareholders was 51 per cent in favour of a non-binding resolution by BAT urging Farmers directors to negotiate on the bid. A total of 27.25 million Farmers shares were cast in favour and 26.52 million against, with 2.34 million abstaining.

Mr Patrick Sheehy, the

chairman of BAT, said: "As a result of our strong showing, anything less than an unconditional negotiation would be a travesty of corporate democracy."

Farmers, however, claims that technically the resolution has failed. Mr Charles Schulz, the senior vice-president of Farmers, said: "Our by-laws require that on any question before a shareholders meeting, the majority is required of the shares represented at the meeting, either in person or by proxy."

BAT is taking legal action against Farmers over the voting of 1.2 million shares against the resolution by affili-

ated reciprocal insurance exchanges. BAT believes it was improper for these shares to have been voted.

BAT has also publicized testimony given at the bid hearings in Idaho, which revealed that two law firms and a construction company affiliated with three outside directors of Farmers received \$7.9 million in fees from Farmers last year.

The state regulatory hearings are continuing, with the Illinois hearing opening today. On Friday, Arizona was the first of nine states, whose approval is needed for the bid to succeed, to give the green light.

Cadbury seeks guidance

By Colin Narborough

The company's inquiries indicate that the Government has no clear idea when a single market will exist for chocolate or confectionery.

Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said last month, when he decided not to refer the Nestlé bid for Rowntree to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, that British companies would be allowed to acquire a dominant share of the home market when a single market existed in their sector.

But he made clear that without a single market for

chocolate, Cadbury Schweppes' share of the British chocolate market would mean automatic referral of any merger it might seek with Rowntree.

Referring to a visit to London last week by Mr Richard Smith, the US industrialist whose General Cinema owns 18.4 per cent of Cadbury Schweppes, the spokesman said no contacts took place between the two companies.

Cadbury Schweppes was reluctant to meet Mr Smith and could not see what he could offer the company's shareholders.

THF hotel for
sale at £60m

Trusthouse Forte is seeking offers for the 150-room Londonderry Hotel, in Park Lane, in the West End of London, which it bought in its £174 million takeover last month of Kennedy Brookes, the hotel and restaurant group.

Mr Rocco Forte, THF's chief executive, is understood to be looking for a price of £60 million, or £400,000 a room, to help recover some of the cost of the acquisition.

The company, which also owns the Grosvenor Hotel in Park Lane, is not "actively" negotiating with any party but is ready to discuss any "reasonably good offer."

Heated exchanges likely on quotas at Vienna meeting

Opec stuck on definition of oil

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), who are meeting this week to try to reach an agreement that will send the world oil price back upwards, are likely to become involved in a new dispute over the precise definition of oil.

Delegates from Venezuela, Algeria and Libya are determined to press for a revision of the definitions, which would effectively mean their being given a larger share of the Opec overall output quotas.

Such a move will be resisted by the Gulf states, but the dispute will add to the view in the oil market that until demand once again outstrips supply, Opec as a cartel will be ineffective. The meeting was due to start today but has been postponed until Saturday because of the Arab summit. The ministers will start to meet in informal groups in Vienna on Thursday when the issue of

what is oil will be raised.

At present, gas condensates with an American Petroleum Institute (API) gravity rating of below 47 degrees are classed by Opec as ultra-light crude oils. Venezuela and Algeria, leading producers of these grades, want the limit lowered to 40.2 so that they can sell these crudes as gas liquids and use their Opec quotas to increase sales of their heavier oils.

The Gulf states, whose oils are in the lower 30 degree bands, similar to most North Sea crudes, see this as a blatant move to capture a larger share of an already diminished market by these countries, and the issue could result in heated exchanges during next week's full ministerial sessions.

In addition, Venezuela has produced a new oil product which is helping it to increase its market share at the expense of the heavy Arab crudes. Very heavy crude oil from Venezuela is being mixed 80-20 per cent with water to produce

Oremulsion, a heavy sludge similar to residual heavy fuel oil which can be burned directly in power station furnaces. At present this Oremulsion is not included in Venezuela's Opec quota and there will be Arab demands that it should be included in the overall output total.

The Arab states will insist that the quota agreements should be tightened so that Opec as a whole can take advantage of what it sees as increasing demand in the second half of this year so that the price can rise above \$18 a barrel once again.

The Arab view that the market is improving is supported by the latest figures from the International Energy Agency in Paris. Preliminary estimates, to be published this week, show that demand in the first quarter of this year rose by 5.6 per cent in the United States. Demand in Europe, despite a comparatively mild winter, rose by 2 per cent.

The IEA says world demand is now running at 49.4 million barrels per day while Opec is producing 18.6 bpd.

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Research may hit Amersham

TODAY

Amersham International, the high-technology, health care and chemicals group which is the most sensitive to exchange rate movements in the pharmaceutical sector, reports preliminary results, and analysts are expecting them to be disappointing.

Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, last week downgraded its profits forecast to £24 million, saying the main area of disappointment is likely to come from the important research products division. It also expects the figures to be accompanied by a cautionary note on the impact of exchange rates on the current year's prospects.

Morgan Stanley, the US securities house, also forecasts profits of £24 million, and expects adverse currency influences to reduce profits by £2 million.

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Finals: Amersham International, Anglovaal, Blyvooruitzicht Gold Mining, Braithwaite Group, Bromsgrove Industries, HT Hughes, Ilfringworth, Morris, Middle Witwatersrand (Western Areas), NMC Group, Oxford Instruments Group, Sheraton Securities International, Skiddeley, Zandpan Gold Mining.

TOMORROW

Redfearn, the Yorkshire glass and packaging company in which Australian businessman Mr Dick Pratt's Overseas Strategic Investments has a near-30 per cent stake, reveals

its interim figures. Analysts are going for pretax profits of about £22 million, against £1.1 million.

The group's plastic bottle business should start to show an improvement as the result of increases in capacity and a full-year profits total of £6.5 million is expected (£4.07 million).

Reed International, the £2.3 billion international publishing group which last week confirmed that it was selling its paper and packaging operations in a management buyout for £750 million, reports results for the 12 months to March 31.

Barclays de Zoete Wedd forecasts a rise in pretax profits from £188.2 million to £242 million, and says that its forecast reflects steady progress in the earnings growth of British and US publishing, helped by a £20 million initial contribution from Octopus, Phillips & Drew and James Capel go for a lower figure of £235 million.

The group's decision to focus most of its attention on publishing, which currently accounts for almost two-thirds of its trading profits, has prompted market speculation that it could find itself subjected to an unwelcome bid.

News International holds a 2.4 per cent stake in Reed, while Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, is also believed to have a small shareholding.

Interim: Alexanders Holdings, Archimedes Investment Trust, Hambros Advanced Technology Trust, Hunter-Print Group, North British Steel Group Holdings, PWS

Finals: Amersham International, Anglovaal, Blyvooruitzicht Gold Mining, Braithwaite Group, Bromsgrove Industries, HT Hughes, Ilfringworth, Morris, Middle Witwatersrand (Western Areas), NMC Group, Oxford Instruments Group, Sheraton Securities International, Skiddeley, Zandpan Gold Mining.

There are nearly 50 British manufacturers, including Caravans International in Newmarket, Bailey in Bristol and BK Bluebird in Poole, Dorset. Last year, sales of caravan holiday homes rose 10 per

6 10
REPORTING
THIS WEEK

Holdings, Redfearn, Sturge Holdings.
Finals: Allied Colloids Group, Atkins Brothers (Hosiery), Chapman Industries, CML Microsystems, Coalite Group, Dwek Group, Evans of Leeds, Great Portland Estates, Metal Box, Norcross, Reed International, J Rothschild Holdings, Rowlinson Securities.

WEDNESDAY

Interim: Brooke Tool Engineering (Holdings), Thomas French and Sons, Hardanger Properties, Harrison's Malaysian Plantations, Bernad, Mecca Leisure Group, Reliant Motors, Westland Group.

Finals: Borden International Incorporated, Caffrys, CE Heath, M&G Second Dual Trust, Osborne & Little, Regalian Properties.

THURSDAY

Boots, the pharmaceuticals and high street shops group, reports preliminary results. Analysts' pretax profit forecasts range between £235 million and £247.5 million, against £221.8 million last time.

The group has persistently promised much more than it has actually delivered. Sales for the first few months of the current year declined sharply

and so margins have remained stagnant. Analysts say that overseas losses are greater than forecast and £10 million of currency conversion losses are expected in the current year.

Boots' Ibuprofen drug has suffered from falling prices in the US and it is widely expected that the company will be incapable of extracting the full potential from Manoplax, its new heart drug.

Beecham, the drugs group, reports annual results, and hopes are high that Mr Robert Bauman, the chairman, will come up with the goods ahead of an important New York analysts' meeting later this month. This will, no doubt, focus attention on the group's Erimase thrombolytic drug which Beecham hopes to launch on the US and British markets next year.

Analysts' forecasts range between £400 million and £408 million, against last year's £352.3 million.

They feel that the company's performance would have been helped by impressive sales of Augmentin, its antibiotic, and strong margin growth on the consumer side.

British Telecom, Britain's privately-owned, near-monopoly telephone operator, which has been dogged by scathing criticism of its service quality after last year's strike, and fears of increased competition from Mercury, will be hoping to appease shareholders with an impressive set of results.

Analysts' pretax profit forecasts range from £2.27 billion to £2.32 billion, compared

with £2.07 billion last time. The final quarter's earnings growth has been affected by the emphasis which was placed on improving service quality and BT's efforts to have more than 90 per cent of payphones working at any one time.

Analysts believe that future earnings growth will slow down to between 5 per cent and 8 per cent, as BT's ability to raise prices is likely to be restricted after OfTel, the Government's telecommunications watchdog, completes its review later this month of the formula which has controlled telephone prices since BT was privatized.

Interim: BAA, Bradstock Group, Camford Engineering, Carr's Milling Industries, Johnson & Firth Brown, Lonrho, RCO Holdings, Sidlaw Group.

Finals: Beecham Group, Boots, British Telecom, N Brown Group, Business Mortgages Trust, Cater Allen Holdings, Electrocrom, James Finlay, Hunter Saphir, IFL Information Technology, Learmonth & Burchett Management Systems, Leigh Interests, Lynton Property & Reversionary, New Throgmorton Trust, Phoenix Timber Group, 600 Group.

Caravan makers in export drive

By Derek Harris
Industrial Editor

Britain's caravan makers, whose numbers almost halved as trade plummeted during 1974-84, are experiencing a surge in production, fuelled by rising demand here and on the Continent.

The economy of Humberside, the traditional centre for caravan making which sprang out of the Hull port's traffic in timber and aluminium, has benefited as a result. It is still by far the biggest single centre of caravan production, with about 20 manufacturers, including ABI Caravans, the market leader, Cosalt, Swiss Caravans, Azale and Willoughby. Cosalt is one of the few caravan makers, Willoughby is part of the Burnside group.

There are nearly 50 British manufacturers, including Caravans International in Newmarket, Bailey in Bristol and BK Bluebird in Poole, Dorset. Last year, sales of caravan holiday homes rose 10 per



Successful selling: Terry Stewart, ABI's marketing director

cent to 22,500 on the previous year, while those of touring caravans rose 8 per cent to 28,500. Total production was worth about £300 million. Export sales rose by two-thirds in value to almost £37 million. The French are the keenest on caravan touring of all Europeans, followed by the Dutch and British. Exports to

same period last year while those of holiday homes have kept 30 per cent, although much of this is attributed to replacing caravans damaged in the October hurricane.

A big influence on the export picture has been ABI which produces touring caravans and those used for holiday homes. It has just won a Queen's Award for Exports.

Mr Terry Stewart, ABI's sales and marketing director, said: "To make a success of the French market has meant having French speakers in all our departments. We have taken caravans into Ireland on skis. Now we are putting a toe into the Japanese market."

"A £7,000 holiday-home type caravan has been bought for exhibition in Tokyo - it took £3,000 to ship it there - because the Japanese are considering using caravans as homes on the city periphery. The all-in cost of the British caravan would still be far less than providing conventional housing," he said.

Howden affair comes to court

By Alison Eadie

The trial of Mr Ian Foggate, the former "Goldfinger" of the Lloyd's insurance market, and four others involved in the Alexander Howden affair begins today at Guildhall.

Mr Kenneth Grob, the former chairman of Alexander Howden Group, Mr Allan Page, Mr Jack Carpenter and Mr Colin Hart are also defendants in the first of the big Lloyd's scandals to reach court.

The Howden affair erupted in 1982, when Alexander & Alexander Services, the American insurance broker, took over the British company and discovered that substantial amounts of money were missing.

Alexander & Alexander Services issued writs against former executives of the Alexander Howden Group to try to regain the missing money and Lloyd's took disciplinary action which resulted in Mr Grob, Mr Carpenter and Mr Hart being expelled and fined.

Mr Foggate's expulsion by Lloyd's was reduced to a temporary suspension on appeal, but his attempt to rejoin Lloyd's as a working underwriter was blocked on "fit and proper person" grounds. Mr Page avoided disciplinary action through pleading ill health.

The Fraud Squad arrested the five men last July and charged them with conspiracy to defraud.

Mr Grob, Mr Foggate, Mr Carpenter and Mr Page were alleged to have conspired to defraud Alexander Howden, its subsidiaries and associate companies by falsely representing that a syndicate of buyers of the Banque du Rhône et de la Tamise in Geneva was independent of Howden.

The offence was said to have taken place between October 1979 and September 1982.

Mr Carpenter, Mr Page and Mr Hart were charged with offences of conspiring to defraud members of two Lloyd's syndicates between January 1974 and May 1977.

Mr Foggate was charged with conspiring to defraud members of two Lloyd's syndicates between January 1974 and May 1977.

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Sainsbury gears up for car servicing

By Daniel Ward
Motor Industry Correspondent

J Sainsbury is expected to announce next week that it is joining forces with Unigate's Arlington Motor Holdings operation to establish a chain of 20 fast-fit car servicing centres on the sites of Sainsbury's Homebase do-it-yourself superstores.

The move into the £5 billion market for car repairs emulates the diversification begun by B&Q, Woolworth's DIY subsidiary.

Arlington's fast-fit venture will be called Motorfit, and its green and beige colours will match those of Homebase. In addition to the 20 centres adjacent to Homebase stores, Arlington plans to open 40 Motorfit centres near the group's existing franchised garages.

Mr John Heywood, the managing director of Arlington, said last week that the pressure "to go all-make servicing" was inescapable, although he stressed that it was very difficult to integrate

with the franchise system, where car manufacturers have considerable control over what dealers can do.

Mr Heywood predicted that in the future the distribution dominance of the car manufacturers would be challenged by 10 to 15 large groups of dealers.

"I also see the large groups developing independent branded activities and offering them on a franchised basis in those locations in which they are not currently represented," he said.

Mr Roger Pedder, a Harris Queensway executive, asked leading motor trade executives at a conference last week why there were few garages on the growing number of out-of-town retail parks; 25 parks were opened in 1987.

Arlington will be chasing the success of Kwik-Fit, the market leader which now has 450 centres in Britain.

Kwik-Fit's sales have increased from £15 million in 1980 to £125 million in the past financial year.

Mr Pedder said that the success of Kwik-Fit, the market leader which now has 450 centres in Britain.

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Picked for the County

The 25 redundancies at Chase Manhattan Securities, announced at the end of last week, included, I can reveal, a number of well-known and highly respected stock market figures. Among the casualties of the firm's surprise decision to pull out of the brewing, food retailing and food manufacturing sectors, were Russell Tickner, once the star of Pincin Denny's engineering market-making team; Mike Whitaker, who also boasts an impressive pedigree and Micky Lawless, Lawless, aged 31, who dealt in gold shares for Alroyd before moving to Chase two years ago, was on the job market for barely an hour. Told of his redundancy at about 4pm on Thursday he had been snapped up by County NatWest Wood Mac within an hour and his contract was signed and all but sealed before midnight. While at Chase Lawless had specialized in overseas traders, foods and, more recently, building stocks, and he will now run a major book for County. Ever the trader, Lawless tells me: "It's sad to be leaving Chase, but life must go on and, in my eyes, County is a chart buy. John Chiene, head of County NatWest Wood Mac, is equally delighted that the recruitment tide there has turned. "We anticipate making a number of further appointments in the relatively near future," he says. Tickner and Whitaker should not be taking their heels for

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Lighting up the board

Clearly keen to promote its own products, BAT gave away packets of 60 cigarettes to shareholders at its annual meeting in London's Queen Elizabeth Conference Centre last week. First among the 2,000-strong crowd to light up was finance director David Slobom. Among the other high-profile patrons flanking chairman Patrick Sheehy were

● A comment overheard in a City watering hole, relevant to the latest flurry of takeover activity: "Always remember... money is thicker than blood."



"Sandra, meet Mr Wriggle. Mr Wriggle is in the Guinness Book of Records for talking about escalating house prices longer than anyone else in the world."

liaison chief Eric Bruell and deputy chairman Brian Garraway. One 80-year-old shareholder, who boasted that he had always smoked and was still fighting fit, went on to wonder whether cancer could really be related to smoking. As quick as striking a match Sheehy replied: "There should be more research into that question."

Bare market

Perhaps sex appeal and financial services are not as incompatible as we had always been led to believe they were. An imaginative entrepreneur in the seaside resort of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, is starting up what is believed to be the first topless cheque-cashing business, called Tops Check Cashing. Customers will be able to chat to two bare-breasted hostesses as they queue for their cash and, in anticipation of long queues, the girls will also be selling beer, cigarettes, soft drinks and snacks to those standing in line. In return for providing this service Tops Check Cashing pockets up to 10 per cent of the value of the cheques cashed. "If topless girls can lure customers into a bar, why not a cheque-cashing business?" asks director Arnold Van, with impeccable logic. Barclays and NatWest have, I am sure, taken note.

Gondola of Paris

Londoners who complained about the airship that kept drifting through the skies above the capital last year will be relieved to learn that it has headed for pastures new. The curious Skyship 600, owned by Alan Bond's Airship Industries, has, I hear, just arrived at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris, from where it will be making five trips a day around the Paris Peripherique ring road. The airship will sail at 1,500 feet, giving the dozen or so passengers on board - paying 985 francs a time - a bird's eye view. Its sponsors in Britain were restricted to British Caledonian and Fujit, but the French corporate community is much more enthusiastic with Fiat, Coca Cola, Toshiba and UAP - the French equivalent of the Pru, controlling 5 per cent of the French stock market - all vying to have their names emblazoned on its side. Airship's European marketing manager Nick Greenwood dismisses the moaning Londoners as "probably professional complainers. The Skyship uses two ordinary car engines, admittedly from a Porsche," he says. "It's simply that the noise comes from an unusual direction."

Carol Leonard

ECONOMIC VIEW

Much to crow about in Lawson swan-song

The Chancellor hinted immediately after the Budget that his tax-reforming days were over. Now, in what could be interpreted as his swan-song on the subject, he has set out, in a Conservative Political Centre pamphlet, his own assessment of the Government's achievements in this area.

Apart from the fact that nine years' worth of tax reform makes a fairly long list of changes, Mr Lawson has three essential points. The first is that tax on companies has been shifted from employment to profits. Secondly, the tax on individuals has moved from income to spending. Third, income tax has been moved from "the great mass of the population to the better off."

The first two are straightforward enough. The elimination of the national insurance surcharge and the 1984 corporation tax reforms have acted upon the bias against employment that existed in the tax system and ensured that the profits boom of the past couple of years has been translated into a revenue boom.

Similarly, the increase in VAT to 15 per cent that was almost the first act of Mrs Thatcher's government in 1979, has ensured that the consumer spending boom has been accompanied by a surge in indirect tax receipts. The bigger the boom, the higher the proportion of spending that is on goods which are not zero-rated for VAT purposes.

The Chancellor's third point is rather more problematical. It is indeed the case that the top 5 per cent of taxpayers are expected to contribute 28 per cent of total income tax this year, against 24 per cent in 1978-79. But it is also true that there has hardly been a reduction in the direct tax burden for the majority of people.

A Treasury written answer on May 17 provided the details. For a married man with two children on average earnings, the proportion of income taken by income tax and national insurance contributions fell from 25 per cent in 1978-79 to an expected 24.5 per cent in 1988-89. At half average earnings it increased from 12.2 to 16 per cent.

At the other end of the income scale, the reductions do indeed come through, with a drop from 49.3 to 34.7 per cent for those on five times average earnings, and from 74.4 to 38.7 per cent for those on 20 times the average.

The Government, and not least the present Chancellor, have much to crow about on tax reform. Incentives have been sharpened and the climate for enterprise has been transformed. The next stage, particularly with the

community charge looming, must be to spread the reform further down the income scale.

Tax Reform... the Government's Record, Conservative Political Centre, 32 Smith Square, London SW1, price £1.75.

Reflection on sterling

Sterling's sharp fall last week and the Bank of England's almost gleeful increase in short-term interest rates is not the end of this particular story. But the weekend break in the markets gives pause for reflection and last week's episode raises questions.

How can the pound be valued at almost DM3.20 on Monday and struggle to stay above DM3.10 by Friday, when the new information available to the markets has been minimal? Those in search of reassurance of efficient behaviour by the foreign exchange markets point to the strong German gross national product figures out last week, which showed a 1.5 per cent first-quarter rise and 4.2 per cent year-on-year growth. They also point to the deteriorating British balance of payments and the expectation of higher US interest rates.

As an explanation for sterling's sudden fall from grace it looked thin. Perhaps the only way to characterize foreign exchange market behaviour as efficient, is if currency performance itself is regarded as part of the new information available to dealers. Thus, sterling's fall contributed to its further decline by changing expectations, just as its earlier rise created a climate which guaranteed further gains. And it is anyone's guess when the markets decide to turn.

All of which adds to the unease when economic policy is excessively dominated by the exchange rate. The Treasury and the Bank of England have got a more satisfactory mix of sterling and interest rates than they had, but the present position is clearly temporary. Volatility, for interest and exchange rates, lies ahead.

And the blame for much of this must rest with the disagreement on exchange rate management - which remains - between the Prime Minister and the Chancellor. Sterling's uncontrolled rise in March was a serious chink in the Group of Seven armour, which had held together remarkably well since the February 1987 Louvre accord. Since sterling became a more volatile currency, so the markets have gradually come back round to the view that they, and not the central banks, are in control.

David Smith

Economics Correspondent

THE TIMES

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No.	Company	Share	Gain or Loss
1	Chatter Coors	Industrials A-D	
2	Usher Walker	Paper, Print, Ad	
3	Gong King	Industrials E-K	
4	Hanson (a)	Industrials E-K	
5	Martin (a)	Property	
6	Wicks	Drugs, Stores	
7	Mounting	Property	
8	Bar & WA 'A'	Leisure	
9	Smiths (a)	Industrials S-Z	
10	Nations (a)	Industrials S-Z	
11	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
12	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
13	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
14	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
15	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
16	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
17	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
18	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
19	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
20	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
21	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
22	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
23	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
24	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
25	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
26	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
27	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
28	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
29	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
30	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
31	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
32	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
33	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
34	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
35	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
36	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
37	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
38	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
39	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
40	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
41	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
42	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
43	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
44	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
45	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
46	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
47	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
48	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
49	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	
50	Rank (a)	Industrials L-R	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of 28,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

UNDATED

Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

INDEX-RELATED

Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

BANKS, DISCOUNT HP

Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

Capitalization and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end June 17. Settlement day June 20. Settlement day June 27.
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (a) denotes Alpha Stocks.

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

BREWERIES

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

BUILDING, ROADS

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

FINANCE, LAND

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

FOODS

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

CINEMAS, TV

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

DRAPERY, STORES

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

HOTELS, CATERERS

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Price	Change	%	Div	Yield
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
1000 Shares	100.00	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0

INDUSTRIALS L-R

35.00	Sagecat	282		6.5	2.6	28.3
17.10	Bedwood	59	+1			7.8
182.40	Bobby (A)	170	+5	11.3	6.6	7.8
2,025,000	Billett (A)	125	+2	5.5	4.4	95.2
290.00	Burned Coalcoast	267	+2	10.8	27	23.0
27.50	Chenango River	156	-2	9.6	5.1	10.8
25.30	Black Arrow	117	+8	2.7	2.3	..

PRIVATE HEALTH

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

Pictures by Ros Drinkwater at the London Independent Hospital

Paying the price of keeping well

David Loshak analyses the Government's hopes that the private sector can help cure the growing ills of the NHS

The 40th anniversary of the National Health Service this year may mark its mid-life crisis but is, nonetheless, a justifiable occasion for celebration and, indeed, some self-congratulation. For all its faults and failings, the comprehensive, and quality of state-provided health in Britain, when considered in the round, not just in terms of straightened hospital services, compares well with the best systems elsewhere.

There are, of course, many serious, disturbing and even dangerous shortcomings. But to suggest that they can be resolved, as the Government seems intent on doing, by calling in private sector aid, or even mitigated without swapping one set of problems for another, is to fly in the face of experience elsewhere.

No health system, however well funded and organized, or whatever the nature of the public-private mix, is coping happily with the central difficulty of modern medical provision, "infinite demand, finite resources", as Aneurin Bevan, the post-war Labour Minister of Health put it.

Nevertheless, Mrs Thatcher, John Moore, the Health Secretary, and their advisers are clearly looking to the private health sector for the answers.

It is understandable that the Government should find much to admire in the private sector. While the NHS has battled to keep its head above water, the private sector flourished. Private medicine has

long ceased to be the preserve of executives and the well-off; it is considered essential by many trade unionists, small businesses and the self-employed, including, significantly, family doctors and quite a few Labour MPs. The private sector may still be small in comparison with the NHS, but it has grown to the point where nearly six million people, more than 10 per cent of the population, are covered. The value of its services corresponds — around £1,500 million this year.

The private sector has more than 200 hospitals, most of them built within the last 12 years. But while it still expands, the NHS, although it is still the best and usually the only resource in emergencies, is closing wards, keeping beds empty and urging surgeons to be less productive, while 700,000 people wait in pain and distress for so-called "rou-

ting" treatment. Private patients can have their operations where they want, when they want and from whom they want. The contrast is glaring.

Moreover, the private sector has impressive medical achievements to its credit. It has led the field in *in vitro* fertilization. It has pioneered advances in preventive care and modern surgical techniques.

Although only a tenth the size of the NHS hospital sector, it carries out a sixth of all major operations, a fifth of all heart operations and a quarter of hip replacements.

It does so, of course, at a price. Money buys health. But that is equally true of the NHS, which certainly does not come cheap, even if it seems "free", or almost so, at the point of delivery.

Having largely progressed from its emphasis on luxurious accommodation and cordon bleu menus, the private sector has learned to control its costs and can offer good value for money. For the poorest sections of the population, of course, it is not affordable. But for most people, it is. They have the choice. Family cover can cost a lot

less than an average holiday. In principle, the private sector has the capacity and potential to take much of the excess pressure off the over-burdened health service. This could be achieved by collaborating with it on a greater scale, as well as through utilizing the disposable incomes of higher earners, perhaps allied to tax incentives or hypothecated taxation (to which the Treasury now seems less opposed than in the past), and by teaching the NHS, through example, to become more entrepreneurial.

But it will not be easy or painless. When Harris Austin, director of the Roding Hospital, Redbridge, Essex, learned that a 58-year-old local woman had suffered four cancellations of a hip replacement operation, he offered theatre time, a bed, full nursing care, food, physiotherapy and theatre staff free of charge.

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the short term, but the need is chronic. In a recent report on alternative ways of funding health care, the influential King's Fund suggested that the health authorities might buy in private sector services, or sell to them.

But it acknowledged that this would also tend to make health care available on the basis of means rather than need.

As even John Moore, who favours a monetarist restructuring of health provision, acknowledges, that would run counter to the fundamental tenets of the National Health Service.

In fact, it would overturn British principles of care provision, which go much further back than Beveridge and Bevan.

It is perhaps Thatcherism's greatest merit that it is prepared to shake any national institution, however time-honoured, by the scruff of the neck.

But what might result from undermining a millennium's medical inheritance?

Commercially driven care as the core rather than the margins of provision could have deeply unwelcome effects.



Going private: For many patients it is the only way, for most it represents a complementary health service to the NHS

'The private sector has impressive achievements'



The luxury of private treatment; but not for long-term illness

The pitfalls of private health

Private health provision has been around for a lot longer than provision by the state or the community, yet it now seems as if the old world is about to be called in to redress the balance of the new.

There is much, however, that the independent sector does not do, will not do, cannot do and does not want to do.

As the medical writer Dr Michael O'Donnell has noted, private medicine is not so much a system of care as a carefully selected menu of items.

Almost all of the score or so insurance schemes exclude primary care from the family doctor, the most widely-sought form of medical help. They also:

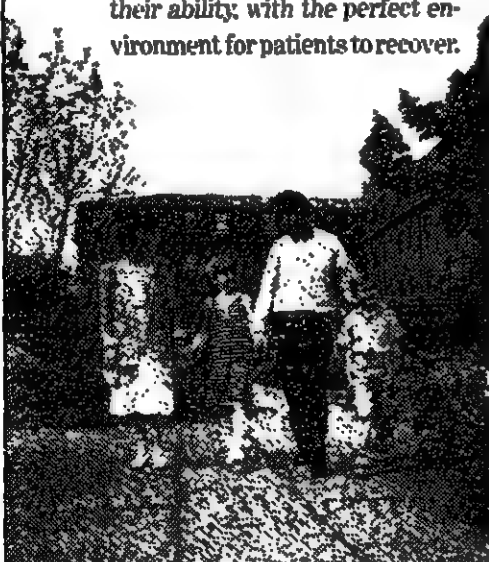
- Debar, or place restrictions on, the over-65s, the largest and neediest group of clients.
- Refuse to defray the costs of pregnancy or childbirth, except for complications.
- Do not cover illness arising from drugs or drink.
- Do not reimburse the costs of sight or hearing tests.
- Seldom offer insurance against dental treatment. And most patients who need surgical appliances must either get them on the NHS or pay the full cost.
- Do not allow for alternative medicine.
- Mostly do not cover psychiatric treatment.
- Above all, they exclude...

DL

You can build more modern, sophisticated hospitals

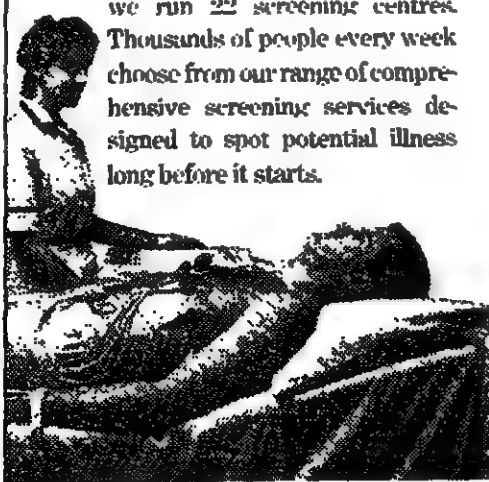
Next year we're opening two more sophisticated BUPA hospitals — in Leeds and Leicester.

Since 1957 we've been at the forefront of the development of modern independent hospitals. Hospitals where doctors and nurses can work to the best of their ability; with the perfect environment for patients to recover.



You can set up Europe's largest health screening network

We firmly believe that prevention is better than cure. That's why BUPA pioneered health screening in Britain, and today we run 22 screening centres. Thousands of people every week choose from our range of comprehensive screening services designed to spot potential illness long before it starts.



You can protect people on holiday or working abroad

Our BUPAtravel and international schemes have for many years been giving people abroad the peace of mind of medical cover should they need treatment.

You can work hand in hand with the NHS

It's in everyone's interest when BUPA and the NHS work together. For example, we have provided a £1 million lithotripter (which removes kidney stones without surgery) for St Thomas'

Hospital in London for use by both NHS and private patients.

Over 400,000 operations are carried out privately every year and we're helping the NHS reduce waiting lists in many parts of the country.



St Thomas' lithotripter

You can build quality homes for the elderly

BUPA's first purpose-built residential home is in Milton Keynes. And more are on the way.



Such homes provide a friendly and caring environment, whilst respecting the individual's wish for privacy and freedom of choice.

You can develop occupational health services

Every year, over 100 million working days are lost by British industry through minor illnesses. Our occupational health service advises companies on everything from stress, ergonomics and health legislation, to setting up a medical department.

You can offer nursing care in the home and at work

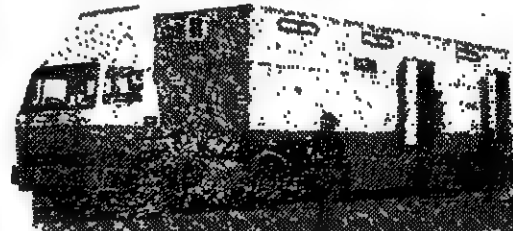
Our national network of nursing agencies can meet all your nursing needs, with Home-Care Services for the elderly, new mothers and babies, convalescents, and the seriously ill, as well



as the special requirements of hospitals and industry.

You can bring health screening to the community

Our fleet of mobile screening units travel the country bringing BUPA's services right to where they're needed most. They carry out breast screening and chest



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PRIVATE HEALTH/2

FOCUS

The myth of pampered luxury

Most people still imagine, and it suits opponents of private medicine to pretend, that private hospitals are havens of illegitimate luxury — potted plants for the pampering of the rich.

True, many offer their patients fitted carpets and fine wines, and at least one has even been crass enough to provide its own programmed matches. But of the 200 or so hospitals in the independent sector, only a few are in the champagne and caviar class.

When the St Martin's Group opened the London Bridge Hospital a few years ago, the *Leicester* described it as "oligarchy" epitome. But Dr Barry Scholes, the group's medical adviser, says that so far from being opulent, it does not even offer total privacy — many beds are in shared accommodation.

He says: "What we concentrate on providing is good technology, safe procedures and the best possible balance between cost and benefit".

A good example of the latest

Centres of medical excellence

trends is the relaunch of another St Martin's hospital, the Devonshire, in Marylebone, as a major rehabilitation centre, the first of its kind in central London.

The few "five-star" independent hospitals are about as typical of the sector as Claridges or the Savoy are of hotels in general. Most are purpose-built centres of medical excellence, to be sure, but must also make good economic sense.

The new and well-equipped but no frills London Independent Hospital in Stepney is a case in point. "We want to convince ordinary people that private health care can be for them," says John Naughton, its director.

Many of the newest hospitals are not in pricey areas but in ordinary places such as Hill, Blackburn, Canterbury, Hitchin, Chelmsford and the outer suburbs of Greater London which are easily accessible from the M25.

American Medical International has now embarked on

a programme to open small satellite hospitals in the catchment areas of some of the 13 large hospitals the group already runs.

It will give medical and nursing care to local communities without carrying the heavy overheads of diagnostic and operating equipment, which will be available centrally.

It is significant that private medicine, which was concentrated in the relatively affluent South-East, has now expanded into the Midlands, the North and even Scotland, where there has long been an antipathy towards it.

Equally important has been the revival of cottage hospitals, which the NHS so pithily closed down as *maisons*. They are well up-to-date technologically, but also user-friendly and relatively cheap to run. In addition, and most important, they fit well into local communities.

The Independent Hospitals Group has opened seven of these throughout the North, and plans several more.

Nuffield Hospitals also has many smaller hospitals with strong local links — the group places particular emphasis on the quality of its nursing.

For those who prefer them, or require high-tech medicine, there are still large hospitals of outstanding calibre such as the 180-bed Cromwell in Kensington, the 265-bed Humans Wellington in St John's Wood, the 100-bed Cheltenham in Southampton, AMI's Alexandra Hospital near Manchester, and several others, equally impressive in terms of size, quality and comprehensiveness of provision.

There is hardly any aspect of advanced modern medicine which they do not provide.

For all that, the independent hospital sector is not, and does not claim to be, as comprehensive as the NHS. But it is pre-eminently at the leading edge of medical advance, innovative, flexible and responsive to patient needs.

Private health care today not only offers all this, but is within the financial reach of many more people than have so far chosen to use it.



The forerunner: certificate for purchase by the London Jewish Hospital Association. Right: nursing station today



Cover from major to Minor

Private hospitals are co-operating in schemes to offer package deals

Private medical insurance is no longer the preserve of the Rolls-Royce class: it now comes in Maestro, Metro and even Mini versions. The huge expansion in the number of beds, in the days when there were plenty of foreign visitors to swell demand, is now benefiting all. For in order to use the excess private bed capacity, the private hospitals are cooperating in schemes to offer package deals and slim-line cover for those who do not want to pay for full private medical cover.

Bupa, the largest medical insurer, with about 60 per cent of the market, recently launched a cut-rate version of its plan aimed at those who do not normally turn to the private sector — the young, the old, and blue-collar workers.

Premiums are up to half the normal rate for full cover but only selected few medical procedures are covered. They are the ones which account for the bulk of NHS waiting lists — hernias, varicose vein operations, hip and other joint replacements, tonsillectomies,

cataract removals and medically-dictated sterilizations. Cardiac surgery is also covered by the plan.

Bupa has negotiated special rates with 85 private hospitals to undertake the operations at fixed prices. Bupa drove a hard bargain and not all hospitals were enthusiastic about joining the scheme.

NHS paybeds are also included in Budget Bupa and if the plan becomes too popular the private hospitals on the list may have waiting lists themselves, so ironically an NHS pay-bed will be a quicker route for those seeking speedy relief from their ailments.

Budget Bupa is even cheaper if you opt to pay the first £250 or £1,000 of any medical bills. For instance, a 50- to 54-year-old would pay £13.95 a month for Budget Bupa with no excess, £10.74 with a £250 excess, and £7.84 with a £1,000 excess. For younger subscribers there is just the £250 excess option. This brings down the cost for a 35- to 39-year-old from £9.95 to £7.36 a month.

This is Bupa's answer to the PPP scheme which delivers private care if NHS waiting lists are longer than six weeks. This scheme, The Private Hospital Plan, has been running since 1983 and offers a way to avoid waiting lists rather than an automatic right to private care.

A family where the parents are between 30 and 49 could get cover for £23.75 anywhere in the country. If they are admitted to an NHS hospital, because the waiting lists are short or non-existent, then they get a cash pay-out of £26 a night.

Full cover for private medical treatment would cost the 30- to 39-year-olds £28.15 if they paid by Access or Visa, which qualify them for a discount; the children then cost an extra £9.50, making a total of £37.65 a month.

The Retirement Health Plan gives the same deal to the elderly, and from July 1 there is no maximum age at which you can join the plan. They are paid £18 a night for any time they spend in an NHS

bed. A 75-year-old would pay £30.70 a month and an 80-year-old £40.55 a month.

Healthfirst, part of the Sun Alliance group, runs Prompt Care, which mirrors the PPP scheme for those up to 60 and Senior Care for 60- to 74-year-olds. It offers private care if NHS waiting lists are more than 12 weeks long. A single adult, aged 30 to 39, would pay £9.20 a month and 55- to 59-year-olds £15.90 a month.

Healthfirst also runs Life Wise, just covering women for breast and cervical cancer. This may be a way of luring the young and fit into private medical cover — once they begin paying for this extremely limited cover, they might think it was worth paying a little more and

getting more comprehensive cover. This form of insurance comes cheaper once the woman has had a health screen within the past three years. Thus a 25-year-old will pay £5.50 a month if she has not been screened and £4.50 if she has been. A 65-year-old will pay £7.50 if she has been screened and £8.50 if not.

Crown Life pioneered the idea of following motor insurance practice and giving no-claims bonuses. This theme has been taken up by a new group, Prime Health, which was started by former Crown employees.

With Prime, for instance, you start with a notional 20 per cent discount, and after five claim-free years can move up to the maximum 50 per

cent discount. Those who make a claim lose two years no-claims discount.

The starting rate (20 per cent discount) with Prime is £27.40 a month for a family living outside London, but near a big city with parents aged 30 to 39, this rises to £32.90 for 40- to 49-year-olds and £39.80 for families 50 to 59 years old.

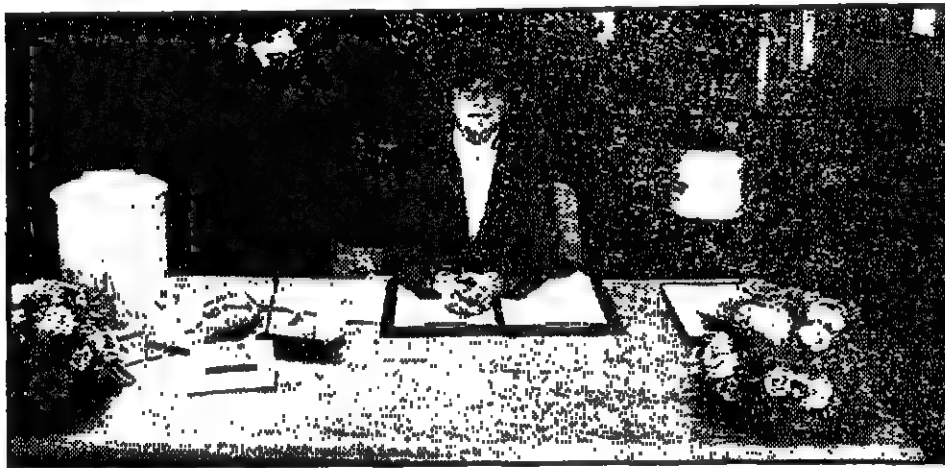
There is also a more expensive version of the plan which has no limits on the cost of operations and pays for nursing at home, a private ambulance, and provides a lump sum of £10,000 for permanent disability after an accident covered by the plan.

The Exeter Hospital Aid Society was indignant that Bupa claimed that its new Budget plan would open up private cover for the elderly.

The truth of the matter is The Exeter Hospital Aid Society has been offering over 65s competitively-priced health insurance for many years and does not restrict members to attendance at specific hospitals or claims to certain types of operations.

The EHAS has a Peter Pan clause allowing you to pay for the rest of your days subscriptions at the age level applying when you join. Those over 65 have always been allowed to join, after paying a one-off additional subscription.

Vivien Goldsmith
Family Money Editor



Welcome: a relaxed appearance at the reception desk at the London Independent Hospital

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Age	Contribution £ per month	£ per annum
18-29	9.50	105.10
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40-44	11.90	131.70
45-49	13.10	145.30
50-54	14.10	156.30
55-59	15.60	173.50
60-64	17.70	196.60

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The growing debate of tax relief for self-help health

Tax relief on mortgage interest has helped turn Britain into a nation of homeowners so it is not surprising that there is a strong lobby for using the same method to encourage the use of private medical services, writes Maria Scott.

At present, only six million people, roughly 11 per cent of the population in Britain, are covered by private health insurance, and only 0.7 per cent of gross national product is spent on private care, compared with 1.8 per cent in Germany and 2.7 per cent in France.

A government committee is reviewing funding of the NHS and one of its priorities is to look at how more private money can be brought into the system. Among the ideas it is considering is direct financial incentives to individuals to provide for their own health care.

At present, individuals do not get any help from the Government in return for paying for their own medical care.

But there is fierce debate over how effective tax relief or other financial incentives would be in easing the burden on the NHS.

There is a view that with a simple system of tax relief, a large amount of "dead" money would be spent on giving relief to those who have already taken out private cover without any encouragement.

David Willetts, a former Treasury official and now director of studies at the Centre for Policy Studies, and Dr Michael Goldsmith, a former general practitioner who is now involved with health policy research and consultancy, raised a number of objections to tax relief in a paper published in March by the CPS.

The cost of giving tax relief on private health insurance might well exceed the saving to the NHS, they argued. "On average, the NHS spends £190 a year on every person aged between 20 and 64. A £250 insurance premium that would have previously borne tax at 40 per cent costs the Exchequer £100 in lost tax revenue. But it is not clear that the NHS would spend £100 less on every adult with private health insurance.

Another objection is that "those who live by political favours can die by political favours. It is not sensible to base the future development of health care on a tax anomaly which could easily be reversed."

Also, Mr Willetts and Dr Goldsmith argue, companies already get significant financial incentives to offer private health insurance as a perk.

"It is desirable to help people to opt out and take a public financial contribution with them but that points to vouchers whose value can be controlled and which are not of greater value to people with higher rates of tax."

The team concludes that there is one

exception and that is the self-employed. They cannot get group cover "and should be able to set the cost of their higher individual insurance premiums off against tax."

As you might expect, tax relief has support among the private health insurance companies. While Bupa is neutral on the idea of giving it to everyone it is in favour of help through tax relief for the elderly.

David Cavers, the general commercial manager at PPP (Private Patients Plan) says: "We have been lobbying for tax relief for some time, especially for the elderly, who cause most of the strain on the NHS."

Older people also cause enormous strain on the costs of insurance companies, which is why they generally have



A trained eye: pathology at work

to pay premiums that many over 65 simply cannot afford.

But Mr Cavers believes that insurance of the elderly could become commercially viable if enough of them were brought into the system. And the relief on the NHS should outweigh the cost to the Treasury.

The idea of tax relief for the elderly received a boost last week from the right-wing Adam Smith Institute, which says that limiting it initially to this group would knock-out the problems which might be presented by extending the incentive to everyone.

Elderly people normally do not have private insurance so there is nothing lost in getting them into private care through tax relief.

Another argument against relief is that it encourages the younger, healthier and

wealthier people to opt out of the state system, leaving the NHS to deal with the difficult and expensive cases and distorting the average cost of treatment.

The Adam Smith Institute says this adverse selection would be avoided if tax relief was used to shift the elderly away from the NHS.

After the elderly, tax relief could be gradually extended to other sectors of the population, allowing the private sector to adapt gradually to the new demands on it. This is an important point because at present the private health sector is not equipped to deal with many areas of care, including emergency services or treatment for chronic illness.

John Redwood MP, in another paper published by the Centre for Policy Studies, has suggested a system which would allow people to contract out all or part of their risks to a private insurance scheme in return for a rebate on their contributions.

The rebate could be varied according to age and the degree of cover which the person wished to keep within the NHS. This system would also involve converting more than half of income tax into a National Health tax, related to income.

A system of opting out could target incentives more accurately and could be cheaper than tax relief, argues Mr Redwood.

There is a view that the amount required of younger, healthier patients wanting to opt out would be so great, in order to maintain a free service for those unable to afford private care, that it would be almost meaningless.

It is a view supported by the Institute of Health Services Management which came out against tax rebates or cash incentives in its report on health service funding published last week.

The Institute also considered the highly controversial idea of allowing people to jump waiting lists in return for a cash payment, but this was abandoned.

George Orros, an actuary, considered the potential of contracting out in a study for the Institute. He says that "any suggestion that you can totally opt out and get money back really isn't creditable because the amount that could be refunded, after providing for the elderly and the emergency services would be too small."

As Mr Orros points out, this is a problem which goes right to the heart of the welfare state.

The status of the welfare state was also considered by the Association of Community Health Councils for England and Wales in its report on NHS funding, published last week. It objected to tax incentives on the grounds that they would encourage a two-tier system where the wealthier got better care simply because they could pay for it.

FOCUS

PRIVATE HEALTH/3

The battle against cancer



Demand for screening services, especially by women, has been highlighted by the fact that deaths from cervical cancer or breast cancer can be prevented, has highlighted a growth area in private care.

The private sector, freed from the political constraints and all-embracing structure that is the lot of the National Health Service, is an ideal position to respond to that public demand.

The NHS is still gearing up to provide mammography, breast X-ray, as a routine three-yearly screen for all women over 50, the age group affected most by breast cancer deaths.

It will be some time before its 14 centres, one in each English health region, are running smoothly and, although they include travelling units, it is unlikely that they will be sufficient to offer such a service to all women who seek it.

However, private companies are already on the market, a market that can run independently of the health care insurance business. Generally, screening is not met by medical insurance but is paid for separately. True, subscribers to insurance schemes may be offered a discount on screening checks, but the private sector has been quick to recognise that screening pro-

More mobile services offer screening

vides a useful adjunct to its hospital facilities.

William Laing, the editor of *Laing's Review of Private Healthcare*, which is probably the most comprehensive guide to the private sector, puts structured screening service as unlikely to generate much more than £20 million a year for the large corporate operator. Nonetheless, the Review already lists 130 screening centres in Britain, some free-standing, others hospital-based.

Mr Laing points out that although London holds the largest share of the market, it is in the rest of the country that growth is fastest. In services primarily used by men, such as fitness testing and executive screening, the share of business was evenly divided between individuals and companies.

In women's services, however, those paying their own way accounted for about 70 per cent of the market, leaving 30 per cent being met by companies.

Cost is a factor in persuading individuals towards private-sector screening and companies are now actively addressing that. The latest move came last month when

Bupa Medical Services decided to offer selected tests separately, and not part of a general, and more expensive, package.

Previously concentrating on providing comprehensive health assessments, the company is now offering, for example, a pelvic examination with cervical smear at £38, or breast examination with mammography at £65.

Such prices are likely to attract a greater range of women than the full health assessment at £253.

Other companies, such as

acquisition of Healthright Medical Screening. Its four trailers provide well-woman or full screening services on the premises of industrial and commercial companies.

PPP is also prepared to offer such screening to the general public if local authorities make a site available.

Bupa, after carrying out a pilot breast-screening project in the West Country, is this year expanding the mobile service that previously was available only to companies for screening their employees.

Nuffield is investigating a

practitioner. Other operators offer similar terms.

It is nearly three years since AMI established its occupational health subsidiary, with the aim of providing a consultancy service to employers to help them respond to specific hazards or cope with legislative changes affecting health at work.

Today there is a wide variety of preventive programmes available for the individual and the commercial company. Those at risk from obesity, diabetes and the like, can find private clinics that cater for weight-loss and provide teaching programmes towards healthier lifestyles.

There is help to stop smoking — and help to start exercising. Alcohol advice is available, as is counselling to recognize and prevent stress.

Fitness testing is widely available — from AMI's high-profile Lifestyle programme to the £10 Primary Fitness Test at a Wiltshire hospital's sports injury clinic. The latter aims at the deskbound, as well as the sportsman or woman.

It is an interesting observation in an increasingly health-conscious society that people wish to know how fit they are, how much fitter they could become and what they need to do to achieve it.

Expert medical assessment of health takes a look at the whole person — including his or her work, domestic and social environment as well as a purely medical history — to arrive at its conclusions and

subsequent advice in helping curb or prevent potential problems.

It is an area where the NHS does not yet attempt to offer much, family doctors having little financial incentive to promote anything comparable.

The more comprehensive fitness assessments offer a similar range of procedures to health assessments and include: height, weight and blood pressure checks; urine and blood analyses; lung and heart tests. Those are followed by expert advice on improving the individual's state, and taking personal circumstances into account.

Many screening schemes are aimed at younger age groups. Women's screening, for example, may start from the years that a woman becomes sexually active. Men, on the other hand, are probably more likely to enter the screening field when they are moving into the risk ages for heart and blood pressure problems, the forties and fifties.

There is also a potentially large market, however, among the older age groups, the retired or those about to retire.

Tapping into that market Bupa, for example, now offers a retirement health assessment, at £260 for men and £296 for women, the latter including "well-woman screening". It aims, in its brochure's words, to "dispel any anxieties you may have about your health and your ability to enjoy your retirement to the full".

Pat Blair

Help is also available on smoking, drink problems, exercise and stress

Nuffield Hospitals, the non-profit making group, and AMI, one of the market leaders, are already offering such services.

Mobile vans are also making a come-back, this time to carry out screening services, ranging from full health screens for men and women, to breast X-rays and cervical smear tests.

Private Patients Plan, the health care insurance company, entered the mobile screening field with its recent

similar mobile-clinic service, with Huddersfield pinpointed for the first. According to Mrs Barbara Greig, Nuffield's project manager for health screening, the client will pay about £50 for a breast X-ray.

Aimed at a wider group than is officially suggested under the NHS, the Nuffield Service will be open to women aged 40 and over. The subsequent report will go direct to the women within 14 days, with a copy to her general

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PRIVATE HEALTH/4

FOCUS

Screening for health

Tests in private schemes can be life-savers, says

Anna Blakemore

Had Hilaire Belloc been alive today he may well have written a cautionary tale about the woman who ignored a medical check because she felt good. She would certainly have been aware of the depressing statistics: on average, cervical cancer claims 2,500 women a year and breast cancer 14,000, with 24,000 new cases reported each year.

Worse still, she would know that in many cases death was avoidable because quick and painless screening techniques do exist and if used properly, would have caught the problem in time - even though smear tests can sometimes give conflicting results.

Feeling good is no criterion to veto a medical check-up. This cautionary tale is worth noting as this writer was to discover. Fortunately, the newspaper I work for belongs to a BUPA scheme, so when I was recently invited to attend the BUPA Women's Unit for the medical equivalent of an MOT, I agreed. But, given the pressures of a busy job it was with a reluctant sigh that I committed myself to an 8.30 am appointment for the Full House Assessment, with strict instructions not to eat breakfast first.

On arrival you are politely whisked into changing rooms, to emerge in a pink towelling dressing-gown and blue airline slippers, along with other identically-clad ladies, for embarkation on what seems like a medical magical mystery tour.

No part of your anatomy will escape scrutiny. The tour officially commences when a doctor discusses your personal history and well-being with inevitable questions such as how much you drink and what kind of stresses you are under - if any.

The entire procedure is conducted along carpeted corridors, among comfortable sofas and endless magazines, punctuated by a variety of



Care on the private scheme: the cardiac angioplasty suite at the London Independent

smoothly-executed screening techniques.

These range from an all-important smear test to mammograms - X-rays of your chest which gives a clear indication if there are any lumps or changes to the breast tissue. Both screening methods are quick, painless and invaluable.

The tests then move on to your heart, lungs, eyes, ears and blood. At one stage you are linked by multi-coloured wires to an electrocardiogram, producing metres of your heartbeat on a print-out, all considerably interpreted by the cardiologist.

The entire screening lasts about three hours and, curiously, allows you time to indulge in rare introspection about your body and general well-being. The procedure is not at all unpleasant, as you are ushered by soft-spoken nurses from check-up to check-up.

But the sense of well-being is short-lived, for the cautionary tale assumes a second verse. A few days later a lengthy letter arrived from the BUPA doctor, re-capping on my discussion with him and spelling out the analysis of the tests. The woman who felt fine is no longer so confident.

I read with utter disbelief that not only did I have abnormal cervical cells, according to the smear test -

despite the fact one has always had regular checks on this count - but that the mammograms had detected a lump in the left breast.

Feelings of panic alternated with the knowledge that detection was early. The obvious thought occurs: what if I had ignored the check-up and postponed it, or had been totally dependent on the NHS when finally some symptom manifested itself? How much

A chance for rare introspection

more serious could the situation have become?

The cautionary tale is not over. Had the following relatively simple procedure of colposcopy, whereby the cervix is examined under magnified conditions, and appropriate biopsies been arranged by a specialist in the over-stretched NHS, the waiting list would have been about six months if you were lucky - possibly reduced by a few weeks if the doctor pushes your case as critical.

When surgical treatment could be performed was uncertain. With BUPA the procedure was arranged in a matter of days.

The significance was this: I was told that the cell changes within a space of only nine

weeks were so marked that I was admitted within 48 hours to the Portman Hospital for Women and Children for a laser cone biopsy.

This is the curative operation whereby the abnormal cervix cells, which are potentially cancerous if unchecked, are removed.

What if this condition had not been so promptly dealt with by BUPA? I was told the chances of developing cancer were probable.

As to my other unexpected problem, a lump in the breast, that is being regularly monitored following a needle biopsy and any change in the tissue is being noted. Although it is not an ideal situation to co-exist with, at least there is peace of mind that the problem is identified and will be dealt with when necessary.

If I had not gone to BUPA that day, there is no reason why I should not now be another grim statistic - or still waiting for an appointment on the valiant NHS.

● The BUPA Full House Assessment and Well-Woman screen are available at BUPA clinics throughout the UK, including the Women's Unit, Battle Bridge House, 300 Grey's Inn Road, London WC1 (01-837 6484). You do not have to be a member, simply make an appointment. Cost: £253 non-member, £227 member.

A choice over the small print

Like all insurance policies, those which cover health care come with a lot of small print. So many schemes are now on offer, the array of options is so large, and the competition for business is so intense, that it has become quite tricky to make the best choice.

For the individual subscriber, that is problem enough, but for a company which insures an entire workforce through a group scheme, it can make a difference worth thousands of pounds a year either way.

A growing number of employers are now calling in third-party administrators to run their schemes in tandem with the insurers, to shop around for the best deal, or to scrutinize their systems to ensure that they are running efficiently and that benefits are going where they should.

Surprisingly, many managers of company group schemes do not have a tight grip on their finances and lack sensible co-ordination and integration of their health-related employee benefits.

Lawrence Purchase, who was responsible for introducing third-party administration to Britain three years ago, points to one company which carried out an audit of its major benefits and was "horrified" to find that these were looked after by eight different executives.

Very few were aware of one another's responsibilities. The duplications, overlaps and pure anomalies accounted in themselves for a major overspend.

Third-party administrators can save money in several ways. They can arrange special deals with particular hospitals for package rates. They can cut out unnecessary claims, perhaps by requiring employees to pay the first £50 in any year, challenge excessive bills, cut out wasteful procedures and ensure fair costings.

They can identify particularly expensive consultants and hospitals, help clients budget ahead, protect tax benefits to patients and stop what amounts to giving staff a blank cheque, which is what effectively happens with many company health schemes.

The two market leaders in

the field of third-party management are Hogg Robinson, with a scheme called Remedi (Reducing Excessive Medical Expenses by Director Involvement) and the Bristol-based Medisure.

Remedi seeks to involve employees, regarding their understanding and co-operation as a key to a cost-effective health plan. Medisure has a similar philosophy, running a "help desk" where employees can get advice on treatment.

In the last year, third-party administration has gone a step further with a more extensive scheme marketed by Health Care Management of Brentford, Middlesex, its managing director being Mr Purchase.

Corporate clients, he says, now want administrators to run their "health care", not just their health insurance benefits.

It is not only administrative complexities that need close attention, Mr Purchase argues. Without all-round co-ordination, companies cannot obtain a proper view of the health, performance and requirements of their employees.

Many businesses suffer from unacceptably high levels of sickness and absenteeism, yet few accurately manage this problem. Reducing costs by just a few per cent can produce

'Individual view is required'

large savings. Integrating the full range of benefits - not only insurance but sick pay and screening facilities, for instance - helps to ensure a more effective benefit package.

"Employers should develop an individual approach to employee benefits", Mr Purchase says. "Many managers are forced to adapt to an off-the-shelf package simply because no alternative is offered. We offer companies the opportunity to build their own approach to their benefits".

Often, communication with employees is poor, with un-informative or not easily understood literature. Advice on an attractive handbook and other material such as videos engenders cooperation, confidence and goodwill.

David Loshak

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The twilight area of care

Most old people live out their lives in familiar surroundings - their own homes or those of sons and daughters. However, with the growing proportion of Britain's elderly people, now about 10 million and projected to grow higher, in terms of bed numbers, the provision of care for the frail, the handicapped and the long-term sick similarly will need to grow.

Whenever private health care has been criticized, one area where politicians tread warily is in the provision made for old people. The private sector, profit-making and non-profit-making establishments, accounts for

roughly half the places for old people in the UK.

The other half is met largely by local authorities, with residential homes, and to a lesser extent by the National Health Service, which provides geriatric beds in specialist and general hospitals.

It is widely recognized that without private care, the statutory authorities could not begin to cope - hence the political reluctance.

Moreover, the greatest growth is in the private sector. Health authorities have been increasing their number of geriatric beds but cost constraints in the NHS and those placed on local authorities by central government have not allowed the expansion needed to keep pace with the growing numbers of elderly people needing social or nursing care.

Unlike acute hospital care, where large companies and corporations predominate, in the care of the elderly it is the independent proprietor who is the dominant force.

However, in the past three years the companies have started to catch up, with about 60 separate organizations now each operating upwards of three homes specializing in looking after old people.

In making provision for old people, organizations or individuals have by now to register each home with either the local authority, if they are

running a residential home, or the health authority, if nursing care is provided. Many homes have dual registration as there is often a grey area between social care and nursing needs.

It is an offence to describe premises not registered with a health authority as a nursing, maternity or mental nursing home and those operating an unregistered nursing home can be prosecuted.

The statutory authorities are obliged to inspect homes and can refuse or remove registration if they are not up to requirement. It is an area of continuing controversy, as many authorities devise their own rules and provision varies widely throughout the country.

There is also some suspicion of a reluctance to close a below-standard home when the registering authority knows it will have to make alternative arrangements for the home's residents.

While the private sector undoubtedly contains some of the best accommodation with standards of pure luxury, it also harbours some of the worst. Proprietors' associations have been among those who have made calls, so far resisted by central government, for a national inspectorate to be set up to enforce minimum standards.

Pat Blair

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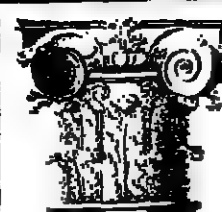
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Topeka Express to complete double

By Mandarin

Topeka Express can defy a 7lb penalty to land the Clementine Calver Handicap at Redcar this afternoon, when all the races are named after trainers' wives.

The Colin Tinkler-trained five-year-old, twice successful last season, including an emphatic success over seven furlongs here, showed plenty of promise on his first two runs this term despite not making the frame.

That potential was fulfilled when, a week ago, he held off Glenacraft over this course and distance. Although there was only a short head between them at the line, the third was a further eight lengths away, and Topeka Express produced an eye-catching burst of acceleration after finding considerable trouble in running.

My feeling is that the bare fact that he has won the story, and that Topeka Ex-

press may still have enough in hand to overcome the extra weight.

Miss Sarajane, who has been running in competitive handicaps this year, may prefer the ground a bit softer, and a greater danger could be Boot Polish.

He has done most of his recent campaigning over seven furlongs but is a useful miler at his best, as he demonstrated when second to Wasjib in the valuable Schwepps Golden Mile at Goodwood last term.

The Sue Camacho Maiden Stakes could go to Arsonist, who is better than his form figures indicate. On his seasonal reappearance he finished a fair second to Bold Stranger at Newmarket only to be disqualified and placed last for causing interference.

Next time out he again ran creditably when a staying-on fifth, beaten little more than two lengths to Winning Gallery, also at Newmarket.



Colin Tinkler, who trains Topeka Express

Although neither of these races was out of the ordinary, Arsonist certainly faces an easier task here, and may be too strong for Tailspin.

Golden Bean looks the answer to the first division of the Carol Tinkler Claiming Stakes. He was a well-backed

favourite when fourth to Kirby Flyer in a handicap over course and distance last week and this is a step down in class for him.

The second division may go to Signora Odore, while the penalized Persistent Bell can concede weight all round in the Liz Whitaker Handicap.

Goodwood stages a particularly competitive evening programme on which the safest bet is likely to be the Henry Cecil-trained newcomer Zalzali. The \$300,000 Roberto colt is, by all accounts, highly regarded and should make a successful debut in the RBC Radio Kent Maiden Stakes.

However, the bookmakers are unlikely to be giving much away with his price and for better value I side with Nebula Way, who is entrusted with the nap.

He was the proverbial model of consistency last season, finishing in the first three in each of his four starts, and he put up a commendable

performance when three lengths third to the useful Harp Islet at Ascot.

He has not been disgraced in his two starts this season, most recently finishing fourth to the Royal Ascot-bound Hoy at Salisbury. Although on that form there is little to choose between him and Park Street, I feel that Nebula Way may have the edge in pace on Peter Walwyn's gelding.

The BBC South Today Stakes could go to Cruise Ship, who has been tackling better company this season, while Derwent Valley, although inconsistent, can take the Jack Grant Racedata Handicap.

At the day's other evening fixture at Edinburgh, the best bet looks to be Identity Parade in the Royal Scots Club Maiden Stakes.

Blindered first time

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